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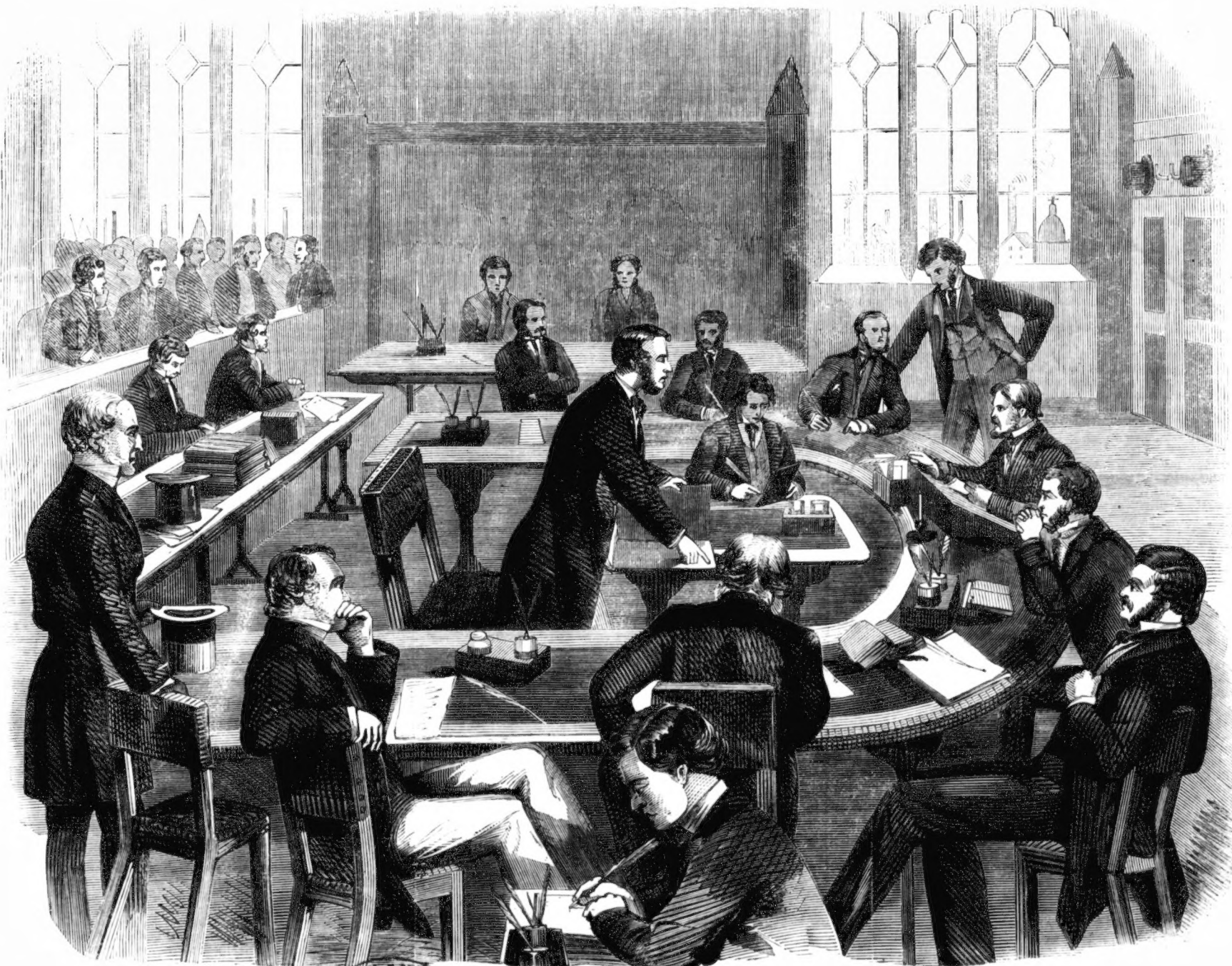
SYRIA AND SICILY.

THE House of Commons seems to trouble itself very little either about the Syrian or the South Italian question. Nor is this neglect of foreign affairs, at a time when whatever dangers threaten England are from without, compensated for by any particular attention to home politics. Even the new Horse-ride debate, though personally interesting to many of the speakers, and in spite of the opportunity it afforded to vestry-room orators of declaiming against the brutal manner in which the aristocracy (as represented by all who keep or hire horses) trample upon the women and children of the lower classes (as represented by the well-ordered nurseries that congregate in Kensington Gardens)—even this promising discussion could not be prolonged beyond about three or four times the period that it ought naturally to have occupied. In the meanwhile it is at too late to introduce any new measures of any importance, even if the House were disposed just now to entertain them; and but scanty explanations are asked, and scantier still given, as to the part the English are to play in connection either with the affairs of Naples and Sicily or with the "civil war in the Lebanon," as the *Times* chooses to term the massacres of Christians by Mohammedans throughout Syria. These, however, of all external questions, are decidedly the two most interesting, not to say alarming, of the day; and even such subjects as the state of the Navy, and of the dockyard fortifications—the necessity for putting both in a high state of efficiency being once recognised—demand less urgently our immediate attention than the policy we are pursuing with or against France in Syria, and in what remains of the Neapolitan dominions.

According to the latest intelligence the French Emperor is for the moment in an affectionate mood; but his love for us has always this drawback with it, that there is no knowing how long it will last, and that in the meanwhile it exposes us to the suspicion and ill-will of the other European nations, with whom, quite as much as with France, we ought to desire to

live on terms of good neighbourship. Up to Tuesday last it was known that we were at one with France as regarded the expedition to Syria, and we had only our own Ministry to blame if we allowed the Power that now takes the lead in Europe, and that would gladly do the same in Asia, to send a contingent twice as large as that which is to be furnished by each of the four other "great Powers." England, France, and Russia have for the last forty-five years been striving, through their embassies at Constantinople, and now and then with a little hard fighting, to impress upon the Sultan that England, and not France and Russia; or France, and not England and Russia; or Russia, and neither England nor France, is the best friend of Turkey, and that Turkey had better mind what her best friend has to say to her. Since Navarino, when the Sultan's three friends united to give him a thrashing, from which he has never recovered, Turkey has been invaded and forced to sign a humiliating treaty by Russia; has been deprived of one of its dependencies—Algeria—by France; while, on the other hand, England has only interfered in Turkish affairs twice, and on each occasion in the character of a protector—in 1840 against Mehemet Ali, and indirectly as against France, and in 1854 against Russia. This, together with the firm conservative policy of Lord Stratford at Constantinople, must have convinced, and did convince, the Sultan that England not only desired the integrity of his empire, but was also prepared, at any risk, to maintain it. But since the beginning of the Crimean war Napoleon III. has made it his business to destroy the prestige of what were considered, in Louis Philippe's time, the three most formidable nations in Europe. He took the lead in the successes of the Crimea, and his army was not even represented at Kars, where the Russians were victorious; he beat Austria in a few weeks; and he has given earnest of his readiness to commit any act of violence in any part of the world, with or without the consent of England—his ally when it suits him to make use of her alliance, but neither his confidant nor

his accepted adviser at any other time. Accordingly, after all we have done for Turkey, our position and reputation inspire the Sultan with so much respect that, on hearing of the massacres in Syria, he loses no time in forwarding an apology, almost in the form of an act of submission, to the Emperor of the French, whom he fears as he once feared Nicholas; while to the English Cabinet he sends a communication quite in another form, and at a later period. After hesitating, stipulating, and conditionally consenting to join the French in punishing the outrages committed by the Syrian Mohammedans—thus justifying the Sultan in his delay in addressing us on the subject—we are half-complimented by the Parisian journals on not having taken the part of the Druses (about whose wonderful hospitality, it is true, a little too much is said after the bloody entertainment they have just treated themselves to at the expense of our fellow-Christians), and are assured by one of the Government organs that it was convinced from the first that "the most energetic adhesion would reply in Europe, as in France, to the noble initiative of the Sovereign who governs us." Indeed, it was quite understood from the first that, with or without the sanction or co-operation of England, France would interfere in Syria, and it was not until the expedition had been decided upon that the co-operation of England was invited. In this matter France has been somewhat hasty; but, on the other hand, England, which from motives of policy as well as of humanity, and from the duties imposed by treaties, should have shown an immediate determination to repress and avenge these onslaughts of Mohammedans upon Christians, has been decidedly slow. As the Sultan, in his letter to the French Emperor, expressed very politely his regret at the massacres having occurred, so, with equal consideration for our feelings, Napoleon endeavours, quite in an apologetic spirit, to explain to us that he must have some atonement for them, and that he really does not see how to resist public opinion in his country, "which will never understand that we can leave unpunished



COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

not only the massacre of Christians, but the burning of our Consulates, the insult to our flag, and the pillage of the monasteries which were under our protection." We prefer that part of the Emperor's letter in which he states openly that he instantly prepared the expedition because "the intelligence from Syria transported him with indignation;" and it is quite evident now that atrocities have indeed been perpetrated in the Lebanon for which condign punishment must be inflicted, even at the risk of reopening the whole Eastern question, which, however, would naturally reopen itself if it once became a recognised fact that massacres of Christians took place in Turkey unavenged.

We see nothing to complain of, then, in anything that the Emperor now says in reference to Syria, and it only depends upon ourselves that we should join with him in the proposed expedition on an equal footing. His assurances on the subject of the Italian question are equally unobjectionable. On Tuesday morning it was generally believed that France had consented to "exercise pressure" upon Garibaldi in case the great Italian patriot should attempt to land at Naples, and it was understood that this "pressure" was to be "exercised" by means of a fleet, and in opposition to the wishes and representations of England. Now "we have changed all that." The Emperor of the French pronounces against foreign intervention in the affairs of Italy, and is prepared as regards both Syria and Naples—nay, the entire Italian peninsula—to pursue a common policy with England. The only difficulty that can possibly present itself will, perhaps, be in the choice of this policy; for during our former intimate alliance with France, when England wished one thing, France often wished another. For the present, however, it is satisfactory to know that we are agreed with France as to the propriety of interfering in Syria, and that France is agreed with us as to the propriety of not interfering in the affairs of Italy.

A PEEP INTO PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ROOMS.

BETWEEN eleven o'clock in the morning and four in the afternoon, during Session time, as busy a scene as any to be found in London goes on in the committee-rooms of both the Houses of Parliament. Fortunately they are not much frequented by the general public, though there are many less amusing lounging-places; for they are quite full enough, and quite hot enough, at all times, from the presence of "interested" spectators and listeners. Two or three times in the course of the day, however, a bonnet drops in, and when we have happened to overhear the remarks made by the bonnet-wearers they have generally been to the effect that "it's a nice large room;" or, "it would take a large carpet, wouldn't it, Lizzie?" or, "that's a nice-looking man next the chairman, who is he?" Ordinary women always seem to look at large public places from a housewife's point of view, as if wondering how long they would take to dust and put to rights. Once, in the House of Commons, we overheard a stout-looking dame say to another, as she trod on a largish mat, "I say, how would you like to have to shake that?" to which the other replied, philosophically, "Somebody has to shake it, I suppose;" provoking us to break in with, "O dear, no; the mats are shaken by steam"—information for which we were duly thanked.

Committees are of two sorts—those to which public questions are referred, and those to which private bills, for railways, water supply, roads, &c., are referred. Round a horseshoe table sit from five to fifteen members of the House—Lords or Commons. In the centre of the concave space, joining the chairman's desk, is a little table, with two chairs placed by it. In one chair sits the witness, in the other the official shorthand-writer. Farther out is another table, straight, and stretching across the room from side to side, with benches behind, where sit "the counsel and parties," if it be a private bill that is on, or "the public," if it be a Committee sitting on some question of the day. Let us suppose a railway is "promoted" to "serve" the neighbourhood of Stoke Poges or Hockley-in-the-Hole. Here, of course, are the "promoters," represented by an apparatus of agents, counsel, engineers, witnesses, maps, plans, and sections; and then the opponents, or "petitioners" (for an unopposed scheme is the rarest thing in the world), represented by a similar apparatus. The promoters call general witnesses to prove that the traffic justifies the construction of the line and that there is capital for it, and engineering witnesses to prove that the works are within the estimate, and the gradients and curves not impracticable. All this is sure to be proved on oath, and the engineering part of the evidence by undoubtedly able men. It is, however, equally sure to be contradicted on oath; and engineers as able as those who just now swore that the gradients and crossings are easy and safe will, in a few hours or days, swear that they are dangerous, if not impracticable, and such as Parliament should never sanction. If it be a water bill, inhabitants of the district will prove that there is no water to be had at present for ordinary purposes; engineers, that there are plenty of beautiful springs ready to be tapped by the company without hurting anybody; and chemists that the water is as pure as that of Loch Katrine. But, for the petitioners, witnesses will be called to prove that there is so much water now to be had in the district that the miners may be seen bathing nightly at their doors in the most improvident (and indecorous) manner, that if you tap the springs in question you will drain the watershed of (say) the River Wear, and stop the navigation; and, lastly, that the water is peaty and undrinkable. As to the decisions, our own opinion and the general opinion is that they are almost always fairly come to. Our firm belief is that the cases where elements of personal interest enter into the verdict are very few indeed.

Enormous fortunes are made at the Parliamentary Bar, and there may be seen some of the ablest and also some of the finest, best-groomed men in England. You do not often meet taller, heartier, more personable fellows than Mr. Hope Scott (of Abbotford, who has just sent £100 to the Pope), Mr. Calvert, Mr. Burke, Mr. Davison, Mr. Rodwell, and Mr. Serjeant Wrangham, the latter the senior of this Bar, who when young must have been a noble-looking man. We doubt, too, whether there is any department of intellectual activity where there is shown a greater command of details than in that of Parliamentary agents and counsel. What nook or corner of railway England, with its gradient, curve, and history in general, is unknown to men like Mr. Denison, of Big Ben celebrity—who will be "chaffed," by-the-by, about his bell as long as he lives by Mr. Merewether, Q.C., the wag of the committee-rooms? Each of the great gans has his own peculiar line of business here. Mr. Hope Scott makes a speech which it is a pleasure to hear, even when it relates to an Irish or Welsh line. Mr. Burke is the prince of clause-drawers, and his punishment in the next world, said Mr. Merewether, will be eternally drawing clauses and eternally having them rejected. Mr. Denison is a first-rate opponent; and so one might go round the Bar, naming the speciality of each of the practitioners. Among the engineers there are, of course, many men of great ability, even now Stephenson and Brunel are gone. Mr. Hawkshaw, Mr. Hawkey, and Mr. Fowler are the best known. Among the agents may daily be seen Mr. Theodore Martin (Bon Gaultier), with decidedly the most noticeable head, face, eyes, and carriage to be found in the committee-rooms. Not unfrequently distinguished men are called as witnesses, and they are usually examined sitting at the committee-table, not in the witnesses' chair. Within a short time one might name the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Somerset, Sir James Graham, Lord Derby, and Mr. Gladstone, the last called to prove "obstruction" in some northern line of railway.

In Committees on public questions the place is not so crowded, unless the question happens to be a very interesting one—as, for instance, that of the Thames Embankment. It is in these rooms that you may get a good daylight view of leading Parliamentary men of both uses. On the Thames Embankment Committee, for instance, you

would see Lord John Manners, Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Walter, Sir John Shelley, on the Civil Service Examination Committee, Lord Stanley, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Bright, Sir Stafford Northcote. As men of business it may be observed that "bloated aristocrats" by no means fall below the rest. For all parties concerned—agents, counsel, witnesses, and the rest—the ordeal in the Lords is severer than that in the Commons. Their Lordships begin earlier, sit later, drive harder, and will not be played with. Many an opponent of a railway bill which has passed the Commons says, "Thank God, there is a House of Lords," with not very different feelings from those which first prompted the exclamation. The only particular in which the "bloated aristocrat" element peeps out in a Lords' Committee is in the greater readiness of their Lordships to listen to opposition on the ground of damage to what is called "residential amenity," when a railway proposes to come close enough to private property to annoy the owner by noise, smoke, or spoiling the outlook; and that reminds us of an anecdote. In a "residential amenity" case, in a Lords' Committee, Mr. Hope Scott, holding in his hand a drawing of the house and wooded grounds said to be damaged, is cross-examining a witness. Mr. Hope Scott: "Pray, when was this view taken?" Witness: "In the month of February." Mr. Hope Scott: "This profusion of verdure suggests a remarkably mild climate for that latitude?" (mid-Scotland). Witness: "Ah, you had that joke four years ago!" Loud laughter, in which their Lordships heartily joined. In another case a strenuous opposition was made by counsel on one side to counsel on the other asking a witness what somebody said on a particular subject when he had called upon him. There were three speeches made, their Lordships deliberated, and decided that the question might be put. Up jumps counsel, radiant and triumphant:—"Well, you called at the house of Mr. Blank?" Witness: "Yes." Counsel: "Well, what did he say to you?" Witness: "Nothing; he wasn't at home!" Roars of laughter, in the midst of which the cross-examination was discontinued.

There are two notabilities among the engineers frequently called to give evidence before Parliamentary Committees who may have a word or two to themselves. One of them is Mr. G. P. Bidder, the "Calculating Boy," President of the Civil Engineers' Institution, whose curly hair is now silver-white, and who is about the coolest witness that ever sat in the chair. The other is Mr. George Willoughby Hemans, a son of the poetess, who inherits from his father, Captain Hemans, so soldierly a look that, even without his moustache, he would be taken for a fire-eater. No notice of Parliamentary engineering witnesses would be complete without some reference to the class of professional witnesses—engineers whose function it is merely to attend and pocket guineas for giving plausible evidence against "compulsory running powers" of one line over another, and that sort of thing. There are gentlemen of this order haunting the committee-rooms who have got their speeches by heart from frequent repetition. Of course this game cannot last for ever; there must, in the course of nature, come a time when their "old familiar faces" and old familiar speeches will become too familiar; and we have no doubt they are wise enough to make their hay while the sun shines.

No sketch of the committee-rooms would be complete without a reference to the mysterious Man in Buff—pale buff—with the ancient Quaker hat. This is a gentleman who has apparently a monomania for Parliamentary litigation. During Session he flits from room to room, drinking in with eager thirst what everybody else is sick of; and what he does with himself when Session is over we do not know. His game for this year is up. We saw him the other day with a beaming countenance in the committee-room "assisting" at the Lords' investigation of the London, Chatham, and Dover Metropolitan Extensions Railway Bill—the last hot fight of the year. Our readers know what this bill is. It would so connect the railways in the north and the south of London, by branches from a central station in Farringdon-street, that a man could go right through, as one of the witnesses phrased it, from Aberdeen to Dover without stopping. The manner in which a simple matter can be puzzled was curiously illustrated in the Committee by the examination and cross-examination of the witnesses upon the omnibus connection of the two sides of the bridges. The facts of the case could have been put into half a dozen propositions, but the impression left upon the minds of the Committees in both Houses (in the Commons the hearing lasted thirty-two days) by the evidence of police commissioners, inspectors, and others, must be ridiculously wide of the mark. Easy as the subject is, we heard with our own ears statements made, in evident good faith, by persons presumably well up in it, which were preposterously wide of the mark in some respects and preposterously incomplete in others. But it does not matter; the bill has been passed by the Committee.

The committee work for this year is over, and the popping of Seltzer-water corks will be heard no more in the refreshment corridors; no more will Sir John Shelley be seen in six committee-rooms at once, radiant and voluble and wide-awake in all; Mr. Hope Scott is off to Belgium; Mr. Davison has told the Chairman for the last time this year that he "doesn't care;" and we shall have to wait seven months before we again hear Mr. Merewether whistle the Volunteers' March in the pauses of the business; and by that time he will have learnt a new tune.

* Mr. Davison is a very tall and very plucky young barrister, whose trick is never to "care" about anything.

NAPOLEONIC RELICS.—A nephew of Prince Demidoff has just opened a "Napoleonic" museum at the Island of Elba. It consists exclusively of furniture, clothes, and jewellery which belonged to Napoleon I. There is also a curious autograph written by General Bonaparte to Talma, the actor, at a time when the former was vegetating in poverty in Paris. It runs thus:—"I have fought like a lion for the Republic, my good friend Talma, and, as a reward, she lets me starve. That wretch Aubry leaves me on the pavement when he might make something of me. I feel myself more than a match for such Generals as Santerre and Rossignol, and they won't find a corner in Vendée or elsewhere to employ me. You, indeed, are fortunate! Two hours on the boards put you face to face with the public that dispenses fame. We soldiers must purchase glory at a higher price on a larger stage, which we are not always permitted to ascend. Do not, then, regret your position; remain on your stage. Who knows whether I shall ever appear on mine again? I saw Monvel (another actor) yesterday. He is a true friend. Barras makes large promises. Will he keep them? That I much doubt. I am reduced to my last farthing. Have you a few francs ('quelques ecus') at my service? I won't refuse them, and promise repayment out of the first kingdom I may conquer. My friend, how happy were the heroes of Aristotle! They did not depend on a Minister of War. Adieu.—Yours, BONAPARTE."

TURIN REMOVED.—The Turin correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—"A monstrous canal has been freely distributed at Naples, in Sicily, and, I believe, out of Italy—namely, that a secret treaty exists between the French Government and ours regarding the future arrangement of Italy. The object of this fiction is to sow discord in Italy, and to render the Piedmontese Government suspected in the eyes of foreign, more especially of English, diplomacy. The distributors of this alleged treaty are agents of Lamoricière and the dispossessed Princes, and many copies have been found on a much-suspected Austrian traveller. The substance of this invention is as follows:—Piedmont shall be allowed to take possession of the Two Sicilies; all propagation of her ideas in the Marches and in Umbria shall be forbidden, but if a spontaneous revolution should break out, and those countries should demand to be united to Piedmont, no intervention to prevent this shall be tolerated. France, on the other hand, will not aid Piedmont if she should ever wish to deprive Austria of Venetia by force. In return for these concessions (you see that the last is not much of one), the King of Piedmont shall, without consulting the populations, give purely and simply to France the whole of Liguria, including Genoa, the island of Sardinia, and the island of Elba!"

THE ARABS AND THE ECLIPSE.—The *Akhbar* states that the late eclipse, having been nearly total at Algiers, caused great terror among the natives. On the top of their terraces they made a noise with pestles and mortars, or lighted in their rooms the small wax candles of which they purchased a supply at the time of the fête of the Mouloud (birthday of Mohammed). They called to mind with alarm that, according to tradition, Algiers is to be one day destroyed under similar circumstances by the sea rising to the height of Sidi Ben Nour, which crowns one of the summits of the Bouzarja; and that future navigators when sailing past will point under their vessels, and exclaim, "There stood Algiers."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree augmenting the number of the officers of the General Staff from 560 to 580. This decree is preceded by an explanatory statement to the effect that the Staff is not even in time of peace sufficient for the necessities of the service created by the increase of the army attendant upon the extension of French territory. The same journal publishes a correspondence from Constantinople, dated the 18th ult., which states that Fuad Pacha, before leaving for Syria, sent the following message to the Marquis de Lavallette:—"Tell the Ambassador that, at the risk of my life, I shall wash out the stain upon the honour of our army, and that the soldiers will also do their duty."

The differences between France and the Republic of Peru have been successfully arranged through the agency of the French Consul-General, M. de Lesseps, supported by the Commander-in-Chief of the French squadron in the Pacific.

SPAIN.

The *Independencia* has a statement that, in the negotiations which have been carried on between the great Powers with reference to the intervention in Syria, Spain has figured as one of the contracting Powers—"a fact which merits attention, as it indicates that the Cabinet of Madrid has the intention of adopting the rôle of 'great Power,' claimed for it by the patronage of the French Government."

ITALY.

ROME.

The Pope has decided upon not quitting Rome. Bills have been posted upon the walls of the city announcing the approaching outbreak of a revolution.

Letters from Rome to July 28 state that General Goyon will leave for France on August 5.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

A Milan letter of July 25 says:—"Important news has been received from Mantua. The Austrian military authorities have discovered a conspiracy for desertion on a grand scale. For a month past secret conferences, with a view to desertion, have been held in the Don Miguel Hungarian Regiment. Two battalions had been completely gained over, and the desertion was to have taken place on the 18th of July, but the design was betrayed, or at least discovered. Both battalions were then confined to barracks. Most of the officers were parties to the conspiracy." In a subsequent letter we read that, "on the 24th of June, during the movements of a field-day, some of the Hungarian soldiers, having obtained ball cartridges, fired into a corps of chasseurs noted for its loyalty to the Emperor. A sergeant of the chasseurs was mortally wounded. After steps were taken to discover the criminals several of the Hungarian officers deserted."

NAPLES AND SICILY.

There is now not any longer any uncertainty about Garibaldi's whereabouts. He is before, or rather in, Messina—namely, in the town, the fortress being still held by the troops of the King of Naples. The fighting at Melazzo was very severe. The Neapolitan troops under the command of General Boeco defended the ground foot by foot, and remained masters of the position until night, when Garibaldi having received reinforcements, with five pieces of rifled cannon, the chance turned, and he obtained the advantage. The men in the fort, deprived of water, without communication with Messina, and cannonaded from the seaside could no longer hold the position, and the Commander asked to capitulate with the honours of war. After a short negotiation the garrison was permitted to withdraw, part to Messina, while part were embarked for Reggio. According to advices received at Genoa the loss of the Garibaldians was 780. The Neapolitans had 1223 killed. There were many wounded on both sides.

The *Official Gazette* of Turin, in giving the details of the action at Melazzo, states that after the town was taken Garibaldi ordered thirty-nine of the inhabitants, among whom were several gendarmes, to be shot for pouring boiling oil and water on his men during the attack.

Garibaldi has concluded a military convention with the Neapolitans upon the following terms:—"The Neapolitans are to remain in possession of the forts of Syracuse, Augusta, and Messina, and to have liberty of access to all parts of those towns. The citadel of Messina will not fire upon the town. The Garibaldian colours to take equal rank with the Neapolitan flag. The navigation of the Strait of Messina to be free." It is rumoured that the Royal troops are about to evacuate the citadel of Messina.

The following is said to be a copy of a letter recently addressed by King Victor Emmanuel to General Garibaldi:—

General.—You know that I did not approve of your expedition, and that I was entirely foreign to it, but to-day the very grave circumstances in which Italy is placed make it a duty to enter into direct communication with you.

In the event of the King of Naples consenting to evacuate the whole of Sicily, and voluntarily abandoning all action, and formally pledging himself to exercise no pressure whatsoever upon the Sicilians, so that the latter may freely pronounce their will, and choose the mode of government which they may prefer, I believe it will be wise in you to renounce altogether any further enterprise upon the kingdom of Naples. In the contrary event I expressly reserve my entire liberty of action, and relieve myself of making any comment to you in regard to your projects.

Garibaldi is reported to have replied that he himself could alone judge concerning the real state of things, and that he would not pause until the cause of national unity had triumphed.

The disembarkation of Garibaldi on the main land was immediately expected.

Fifteen steamers of the Royal fleet have left Naples for Sicily. The King of Naples has accepted the resignation of the Marquis d'Antoni, his Ambassador at Paris, who is to be replaced by the Commander Canofarri. Sixteen persons belonging to the Court have been exiled.

A telegram from Paris says that "the Marquis de la Greca was intrusted with the mission of proposing to France and England that they should direct a French and English fleet to cruise off Calabria and Naples to order to prevent any landing of the Garibaldians. The French Government signified to the Marquis de la Greca its assent to this proposal. In order to obtain the adhesion of England the Marquis de la Greca proceeded to London, and was supported by Count Persigny in placing his demand before Lord John Russell. M. Thouvenel also transmitted a note to Lord Cowley, stating that France was ready to employ all necessary means for preventing Garibaldi landing on the main land. Nevertheless, Lord John Russell declined to accede to the proposal of the Marquis de la Greca on account of the principle of non-intervention which England desires to maintain."

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The *Levant Herald* of the 18th observes that the receipt of the intelligence of the massacres at Damascus excited the gravest anxieties of the Porte. "On Monday, after interviews with Sir Henry Bulwer and M. de Lavallette, his Highness Aali Pacha had an audience of the Sultan, and was closeted with his Majesty till a late hour—on what business it is easy to imagine. Yesterday, again, Sir Henry and Mr. Williams, the American Minister, had long conferences with the Caimacan on the same subject.

Orders have been issued to pay all arrears due to the garrison of Constantinople. Great precautionary military measures had been taken. The bridges of Galata and Pera are raised every night. The Sisters of Charity have dismissed all their pupils. Several Christians have been insulted and beaten. Disturbances have taken place among the schismatic Armenians. Several thousands of them opposed the burial of Protestant Armenians in their cemetery. At the request of Sir Henry Bulwer the military interfered, and killed or wounded forty persons.

The *Temesvar Gazette* says:—"The reiterated attempts which have been made to excite insurrection in Bosnia have failed. Some hundreds of Servians had crossed the Drina, but were also repulsed by a Turkish

detachment, and had several killed. On the return of this band into Serbia they were disarmed and taken under escort to Belgrade. Some conflicts have also taken place at Colachin and Gako, in Montenegro. Some of the regular soldiers of the garrison of Belgrade had deserted, but were arrested by the peasants in the country, and delivered up to the commander of the fortress."

SYRIA.

An ambassadorial conference on the affairs of Syria took place at the Foreign Office in Paris on Friday, and a second one took place on Monday. This was adjourned sine die, such a course having become necessary in consequence of each of the Ambassadors having had to apply for new instructions.

Lord John Russell is said to have authorised Lord Cowley to sign the convention for regulating the intervention in Syria, on condition that the free acquiescence of the Porte should have been previously obtained; and it is asserted that Lord Cowley was also instructed to make the reserve that, should Fud Pacha successfully carry out his present mission, and thus render the dispatch of foreign troops unnecessary, the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris in 1856 shall confine themselves to supporting the efforts of the Porte for the complete pacification of Syria, by maintaining in the Syrian waters such naval forces as will suffice for the efficacious protection of the Christians.

The Ambassadors, in the conference held on Monday, agreed upon drawing up a convention containing six articles, and adopting certain modifications desired by the Porte.

Meantime we have had bad news from Damascus. A massacre commenced on the afternoon of the 9th ult. Before night 500 Christians were killed. The first Consulate attacked was that of Russia. The Russian and Greek Consuls took refuge with Abd-el-Kader. All the Catholic and Greek churches and convents, as well as the Consulates, were burnt. The American Vice-Consul was wounded, and the Dutch Vice-Consul killed. On the 13th the massacres still continued, by which time, we are told, 6000 houses belonging to the Christians had been destroyed. The Jewish quarter had been burnt. The Turkish houses in which the Christian women had found refuge had also been burnt. As the massacres lasted for eighty hours, it was difficult to ascertain the number of victims. 2000 Christians were still under Abd-el-Kader's protection, but suffering from hunger. Several Consuls were at Abd-el-Kader's residence, who gave refuge, also, to several Englishmen.

A report says that on the 10th three thousand Christians had taken refuge in the citadel, which was occupied by the Algerines under Abd-el-Kader. The town was still in the power of the murderers and incendiaries to the number of 2400, the greater part of whom were Druses and Bedouins. The Turkish garrison consisted of 5000 men, inactive or hostile. The soldiers had driven the Christians into the flames of the burning houses. The same account computes the number of victims at from 3000 to 4000, but states that this may be an exaggerated statement, as the state of terror which prevailed would not allow of its being verified.

"Between May 29 and June 30," writes a correspondent at Beyrout, "the Druses have murdered in cold blood upwards of four thousand Christians, including more than a hundred Catholic and Greek priests and monks. They have burnt down upwards of 150 Christian villages, including more than 100 churches and 16 convents."

Three thousand Turkish regular troops arrived at Beyrout on the 11th in a line-of-battle ship and two frigates, under Khalid Pacha. Two thousand left for Damascus. As yet "the Turkish Government has not punished a single Druse. In every case of outrage upon Christians, the Druses and Moslems act in concert."

The plunder of church plate and other valuables, and the damage done to crops, houses, and to the country in general, is said to amount to upwards of six millions sterling.

Druse atrocities in the neighbourhood of Sidon continue unabated. Christian priests and villagers near Sidon, and near Damascus, have been forced at the point of the sword to embrace Moslemism by hundreds.

A report that the Sultan had requested the Viceroy of Egypt to send reinforcements of 10,000 soldiers is denied. It has been resolved to increase the Turkish army in Syria to 26,000 men.

The Dutch Government has addressed a circular despatch to its diplomatic agents abroad, informing the European Courts that, the assassination of the Dutch Consul at Damascus having been confirmed, the Government has sent to Syria, for the protection of its fellow-countrymen and the defence of the honour of its flag, several vessels of war; and that, moreover, it is consulting with the French Government relative to a common movement.

A fleet is ready at Cronstadt to make speedy sail for Syria. It consists of three steam-frigates, the *Grand Admiral*, of 60 guns, newly made in America for the Russian Government, the *Gromoboi*, and the *Oleg*. The *Nord* says that the above fleet will be strengthened by three or four other Russian vessels now cruising in the Mediterranean.

A letter from Athens states that the Greek steam-transport the *Paralus* left the Piræus on the 21st, having on board a quantity of provisions and other necessaries, sent by the King and Queen of Greece to the Christians of Syria. The *Ariadne* frigate and the *Panope* are being fitted out for Beyrout. These vessels were to convey to Syria several companies of Greek infantry.

AMERICA.

The political news from America is uninteresting. The Presidential campaign continues to monopolise the attention of politicians.

Advices are said to have been received by the State Department to the effect that England and France have determined to intervene in Mexico, and enforce the belligerent parties there to establish an armistice for twelve months, and call a convention of popular delegates to arrange the question at issue between them.

The reports of the crops from all parts of the country are of a most cheering character.

THE BISHOP AND THE MINISTER.

The *Perseranza* of Milan publishes the two following letters, the first of which, addressed by the Archbishop of Chambéry to Count Cavour, bears the date of the 13th of June:—

Monsieur le Comte,—In casting a farewell glance at the States of the King, I see with deep affliction the religious persecution which is now rife throughout Italy. Persecution, so hard to bear by those on whom it is inflicted, is neither agreeable nor honourable to those who practise it. Before our separation let me offer you a counsel which will put a stop to it in a few days if you deign to take it into consideration. Do not mix up spiritual with temporal concerns. Let priests be free in church and sacristy. Do not exact from them what is contrary to their convictions. Let them pray, say mass, instruct the faithful, and administer the sacraments. Do not force them to join in your oaths. Do not ask them to sing "Te Deums" for false standards. Govern without them, and permit them to pray without you. Respect the sanctuary of consciences. Forced prayers are neither useful to you before God, nor honourable before men. That, I think, is a simple and easy way of living in peace with the Church. The Government will gain by it, and so will the Church. I have the honour to be, &c.,

† ALEXIS, Archbishop of Chambéry.

Count Cavour's reply, which bears the same date, is as follows:—

Monsieur,—I sincerely thank you for the advice you are pleased to offer me before accomplishing the act of separation which is to put an end to our official intercourse. I shall endeavour to put it into practice—the more so as I have no taste for persecution, and am not now disposed to take vengeance for the annoyances which I had to suffer in my younger days from certain priests who used to invoke the secular arm in order to force me to follow their doctrines and practise their precepts. But, since your Grace takes an interest in the peace of the Church in the States of the King, I would request you also to impart some advice to those of your brother Bishops who place themselves in open revolt against the Government of their country, refuse to recognise the Sovereign it has chosen, encourage rebellion, correspond with the enemies of their country abroad, and seek to foment troubles within. The Government respects the Church; but when any members of the clergy—whether they be Bishops, Archbishops, or Cardinals—violate the laws and affect an insulting contempt for the King and our institutions, we are resolved to apply the laws, even though such a course should make us pass for persecutors in the eyes of a party which preaches tolerance while it follows the maxim in virtue of which the child Mortara was snatched from its parents, and the Madiai—husband and wife—were banished from their country. I am, &c.,

CAVORE.

THE TOEPLITZ MEETING.

THERE seems to be reason to believe that the meeting of the two leading German Sovereigns has been successful in the sense of German unity. In the official *Prussian Gazette* appeared, a few days since, a leading article, of which the following is a summary:—

The hopes which had been entertained in reference to the meeting of the two Sovereigns at Toeplitz have not been disappointed. The approach to a better understanding between the two Cabinets has been promoted by this meeting in the manner to be desired.

The frank and friendly meeting of the two Princes and their principal advisers, and the mutual exchange of their views, have brought the relative positions of the two States into a clearer light. A mutual understanding on the most important questions of European policy has also been found to exist. It therefore became possible to arrive at the conditions of a sincere union. In this union Germany will find fresh guarantees for her security, and may hope that in future the importance of her interests will weigh heavier in the balance of power in Europe.

Europe will, by the Toeplitz meeting, obtain fresh guarantees for the maintenance of public peace and for the respect of the equilibrium.

The article then points out what connection exists between the new path Austria has taken in reference to her interior policy and her approach to Prussia. The article thus continues:—

There is no doubt but that Austria will continue in the path upon which she has entered, and that she is resolved upon following her new policy, not only as regards religious questions, but also in reference to the different nationalities of the empire. Thus Austria will obtain a position which will increase her strength at home and abroad.

The article concludes by refuting the opinion of those who expect from the meeting at Toeplitz a change in the internal policy of Prussia, and shows such a change to be impossible from the known policy and character of both the Prince Regent and his Ministers.

Count Rechberg has addressed a circular to the Austrian Ambassadors accredited to the Courts of the great Powers, containing information respecting the object of the interview between the Emperor of Austria and the Prince Regent of Prussia.

The King of Bavaria is to pass a few days with the Royal family of Prussia at Potsdam.

THE MASSACRE AT DAMASCUS.

LETTERS from Beyrout to July 15 describe the massacre at Damascus. The Turkish authorities are blamed for their disgraceful apathy; while Abd-el-Kader, who protected four thousand Christians in his castle, receives high praise. It would appear to have been a deliberate onslaught of the Moslem mob on the Christians—the recent Druse outrages in Lebanon having intensely excited the Mussulman population. We take the following details from various correspondence:—

Damascus is the real capital of Syria, and is the largest city of Asiatic Turkey. It is considered by all Moslems a holy town, as from it departs and to it arrives every year the haj, or pilgrim caravan, to and from Mecca. The population of Damascus exceeds 150,000, of which 130,000 are Moslems, 15,000 Christians, and 6000 Jews. Ever since the murder of the Christians by the Druses in Lebanon commenced, and more particularly since it became every day more and more evident to all men that the Turkish Government showed partiality to the Druses, the more respectable Moslems of Damascus began to be exceedingly insolent to the Christians. The low Moslems are a numerous, a very troublesome, and an exceedingly bigoted race in all large Oriental towns, and are tenfold more so in Damascus than any place I know in Asia. Hearing how the Government had everywhere not only sided against their co-religionists, but how it had everywhere in Lebanon actually helped to betray, if not really to murder, them, the Christians of Damascus were from the very outset downhearted and frightened—as well they might be, when threatened from day to day that the Moslems would rise and exterminate them. Matters got worse and worse, the one party becoming daily more frightened, the other hourly more insolent, until at last, on Sunday, the 8th inst., when the Christians came out of their various churches, a mob of Moslem lads were busy in the streets making crosses in chalk on the ground, and then stamping and spitting on the sacred emblem. But so utterly downhearted were the Christians that they did not even complain to the authorities of this wanton insult. On the contrary, all they did was to confine themselves still more strictly within their houses for the rest of the day. What, then, must have been their astonishment on the Monday morning to see these same lads who had made and spat upon the crosses on the previous day sweeping the streets of the Christian quarter in chains, by order of the Turkish head of police? They at once supposed that this order must have been given for the very purpose of exciting a riot, and they were not mistaken. At two p.m. some three hundred of the lowest Moslems of Damascus rushed armed into the Christian quarter, crying out, "Slay the dogs of Christians!" and immediately the work of plunder, burning, and murder commenced. Achmet Pacha, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the place—a Field Marshal in the Sultan's army—was at once informed of what had taken place. But, although he had at his disposal some eight hundred regular troops and several field-pieces, not a man nor a gun did he move. He never showed himself in the streets, nor took any steps whatever to stop the massacre, declaring—the old story of Hasbeyia, Rasheyia, Deir-el-Kamar, and Sidon—that he had not troops enough to do any good. The Russian Consulate was almost the first house attacked, and all those Christians who did not take refuge with the famous Algerine chief, Abd-el-Kader (who has behaved most nobly throughout the business), were murdered at once. But, although the affair might have been stopped with the greatest ease before dark on the Monday, after that hour the mob increased in numbers every minute. Late in the evening about 300 soldiers were sent to put a stop to the outrage, but they very shortly joined in the plundering; such as did not do so actually used their arms to massacre the Christians. The whole Christian quarter, which includes some of the finest palaces to be found in the empire, was soon one mass of flames; and (for this there is the positive authority of a European eyewitness, who was hiding in the neighbourhood all that fearful night) as the Christians tried to escape from the flames they were thrust back on the burning piles by the bayonets of the Turkish regular troops. However, when we recollect that one of the military chiefs who commanded in Damascus was Osman Beg, the miscreant who but three weeks previously had delivered up at Hasbeyia upwards of 1500 Christians to be massacred by the Druses, all wonder at the conduct of the military ceases at once.

What the Turkish authorities did may be summed up in one word—"Nothing." No less than six times did that gallant old man, Mr. Brant, the English Consul, and the Rev. Mr. Robson, Irish Presbyterian missionary, at the utmost risk of their lives, go together to the Pacha Achmet, and urge him to do something to save the lives of the Christians. No; he said he could, and showed that he would, do nothing, but remained "consulting" in the castle. When the last despatches left Damascus, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 12th inst., the burning, slaughter, murder, pillage, and other atrocities continued not merely as bad but worse than ever; for the miscreant fanatics of the place had been just then joined by a host of Bedouins, Kurds, Druses, and other scoundrels, who were only too happy for the chance of pillage.

When our last advices from Damascus left that place the whole Christian quarter had been utterly destroyed. 4000 Christians had taken refuge in the house of Abd-el-Kader, who defended them against all comers. 3000 had taken refuge in the castle under the Pacha, and several hundred in the English Consulate, which as yet—being situated in the Moslem quarter of the town—had been respected. Upwards of 2000 Christians, it was calculated, had been murdered, all in cold blood; and the estimated loss of property, money, valuables, &c., was £1,200,000 sterling.

In Beyrout the panic amongst the native Christians has been somewhat fearful yesterday and to-day. They are embarking by hundreds. In Alexandria all the refugees that have fled there have been very handsomely treated by Saïd Pacha, who gives food to the poorest, money to many, and houses to all.

News from Damascus to Thursday evening, July 12, had reached Beyrout:—

The Rev. Mr. Graham, of the Irish Presbyterian mission, had been murdered in the open streets whilst endeavouring to make his escape from a Moslem house, where he had been concealed, to the British Consulate. He had a guard of Turkish soldiers with him, but they did nothing towards defending him from the Moslem mob. The Bedouins and Arabs were pouring into the town to join in the pillage. The Franciscan friars, eight priests and two lay brothers, all Italians or Spaniards, had been butchered. Of Greek Catholic, Maronite, and other Eastern sects, some forty-five priests have been killed. The Sisters of Charity and the Lazarist priests were at Abd-el-Kader's, who held out bravely. Achmet Pacha was shut up in the castle doing nothing at all. The fifteen hundred troops sent from Beyrout were not expected to arrive before the 17th, and by that time God knows what will have happened. All agree in the foul treachery shown by Achmet Pacha.

A letter from Damascus, July 10, thus speaks of the scenes of bloodshed in the city:—

I believe it would have needed a great effort on the part of the Government to prevent all this, but not the slightest effort has yet been made. There

were soldiers in the Christian quarter and neighbourhood, others were sent in the evening with four guns, and more this morning, but they have not at all interfered with the ruffians. Yet a majority of the miscreants are actually women, boys, and girls. I would affirm that there are not in all more than a few hundred men—say five hundred—mostly of the lowest of the low, and miserably armed. Not one in twenty has a gun. A very large number have only sticks, the rest swords, pistols, daggers, or axes. Opposite my door is a sort of stopping-place for them, and we can overhear their talk, and I can affirm that from the first, and all through, they have had the greatest dread of the interference of the soldiers, and constantly ask one another as they meet whether the soldiers in such and such a direction are stopping the murderers or opposing them, and this although during seventeen hours the soldiers have been perfectly passive. I believe firmly that 100, or at most 200, soldiers, or armed resolute men, not soldiers, could have put down the insurrection at the worst moment. Of course, it would have been easier to do so within the first hour or two.

A telegram from Pera, dated July 31, states that the Lazarists, Sisters of Charity, and other women of Damascus, have safely arrived at Beyrout, under an escort furnished by Abd-el-Kader.

IRELAND.

THE IRISH PRESS AND THE FRENCH EMPEROR.—The editor of a newspaper published in Clonmel, called the *Limerick, Tipperary, and Waterford Examiner*, has received a letter from the Secretary of the Emperor Napoleon, dated from "The Emperor's Cabinet." It appears that the editor has repeatedly declared his dissent from the charges of enmity to the Pope which were made by many of the Irish Catholic journals against Napoleon III. The letter is introduced at considerable length by the editor, who gives it as a complete justification of his views of the French policy in Rome. The following is the translation:—"Sir,—When in a country the press passionately persists in forgetting itself in order to calumniate and misrepresent the intentions of a foreign Sovereign, nothing can be more pleasing, or even more consoling, than to see a clever and disinterested writer rise up spontaneously to defend him. You, Sir, have been that writer. You have had the singular merit, in resisting the general overwhelming impulse, to oppose a conscientious judgment to false interpretation and a calm voice to the clamours of malevolence. Thus success has gradually crowned your efforts, and if the error be not totally destroyed it is at least already much enfeebled. So much power does truth bestow on him whom she animates with her inspirations. I have, then, with real satisfaction submitted various articles published in your esteemed journal to the Emperor, and his Majesty entertains for them the sense of gratitude, the sincere expression of which he charges me to address to you."

SENTENCE OF DEATH.—In December last John Holden, an officer of the mounted constabulary stationed at Dungannon, was reduced for contracting a secret marriage. The disgrace preyed greatly upon his mind, and he seems at once to have fixed upon Sub-Inspector Mathews and Sergeant McClelland as the persons who had given information of the indiscreet step he had taken. He decoyed McClelland out of the town and murdered him, and then left a message at the house where Mr. Mathews was spending the evening, informing that gentleman that his presence was immediately required by Mr. Evans, a magistrate. Holden secreted himself near Mr. Evans's house, and on Mr. Mathews making his appearance he rushed upon him, but was interrupted in his murderous attempt by the approach of two men. He was on Friday week found guilty at the Omagh Assizes, the jury, however, recommending him to mercy on account of his previous good conduct. He was sentenced to death, and the Judge bade him hope for no reprieve. He requested to be shot.

ORANGEISM IN FERRANAGH.—At the Ferranagh Assizes Chief Justice Monaghan, having, in his charge to the grand jury, made some remarks condemnatory of displaying banners and other party insignia and emblems in churches, the grand jury presented him with a written document, which he refused to retain or read. It was a remonstrance on the part of the gentlemen composing the grand jury against his Lordship's animadversions, or, as they call them, "criticisms," on the display of flags and banners in the church, which they defend as an ancient custom. At the conclusion of the Assizes the church bells rang out aggravating party tunes, as the correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal* says, "for the purpose of insulting her Majesty's Judges of Assize because they are Catholics."

THE PROVINCES.

CREDITORS WITH LONG MEMORIES.—In 1802, and again in 1810, Mr. H. W. Corbett, a merchant in Liverpool, became a bankrupt, but could on neither occasion obtain a certificate. He afterwards obtained a situation in the Londonderry Customs, from which, some years ago, he retired with a pension. Recently some of the creditors have discovered his position and put in their claims. His attorney has offered a composition of 10s. in the pound.

A GENEROUS DEFENDANT.—At Durham Assizes Mrs. Suddes sued Mr. Balleny, a county gentleman, for so negligently carrying a gun as that he shot her husband, his gamekeeper. The accused was acquitted, but he handsomely declared he not only would not call upon the widow to pay her costs, but he would support her for life. His only object in resisting the action was to remove the imputation of negligently causing the death of a fellow-creature.

AWFUL FIRE IN A SHOW-VAN.—A singular and fatal fire occurred at Grimsby a few days since. Two show-vans arrived and took up their quarters on the Freeport Wharf; and, while the men were away stabling the horses, one of the vans was discovered to be on fire. The two wives of the showmen were in the van at the time, and such was the fierceness of the fire that their rescue was impossible, and it was not till the flames were nearly extinguished that their charred bodies were discovered. The calamity was occasioned by the ignition of a quantity of naphtha contained in the unlucky van.

BANQUETS TO LORD CLYDE.—The Cosmopolitan Club, of which Lord Clyde has long been a member, had the honour of being the first to entertain his Lordship after his return from India. The dinner took place on Saturday at the Albion. The United Service Club has since held a banquet in his honour, the Duke of Cambridge presiding; and the Fishmongers' Company entertained his Lordship on Wednesday.

AN ENGLISH STEAMER FOR GARIBALDI.—The *London*, one of four clipper steamers (the *London*, the *Paris*, the *Neuhaven*, and the *Dieppe*) built some seven or eight years ago, and fitted out for the Crimea in the late war, has been purchased by the Steam Navigation Company for £8000, by the agents of Garibaldi, and, having undergone the necessary fitting, is to be employed in the Mediterranean at a despatch-boat.

THE PROPOSED EXHIBITION OF 1862.—The Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851 have offered to let to the promoters of this scheme sixteen and a half acres of the land at Kensington-gore for the erection of the required buildings. They stipulate that certain portions of the exhibition buildings shall be of a permanent character, and that a sum of £10,000 shall be paid to them out of the profits of the undertaking, to be appropriated for future exhibitions. The guarantee fund now exceeds £310,000.

THE RIBBON AND SILK TRADE.—A meeting of weavers was held in Spitalfields on Wednesday night for the purpose of devising measures for affording relief to their brethren. They attacked the French treaty, and denounced the conduct of the Government in sanctioning it as reckless and unpatriotic.

EXECUTION OF THE PIRATE HICKS.—A letter from New York says:—"The mob of New York had a sensation last week—viz., the execution of Hicks, the pirate, who killed the captain and mate of the sloop *E. A. Johnson*. Before his execution Hicks confessed his crime, and also boasted that he had committed many other murders. He dictated his life and adventures to a scribe, and made arrangements for the publication by a 'sensation' bookseller. The profits are to be given to the relief of the departed scoundrel. The execution was a singular affair, to say the least. According to the usual custom, under the old Admiralty common law, Hicks was hanged as near as possible to the place where the murders were committed. The spot was an island in the bay, in full sight of the city, and about eight miles from its southern extremity. Under the State law executions are strictly private, but the Federal authorities made this public. At ten o'clock in the morning the Marshal waited on the condemned at the city prison, and read to him the death warrant of the President. Hicks prepared instantly for death, and arrayed himself in a blue cottonade suit, worked with anchors and other nautical emblems in white. He wore a black cap with a fancy tassel, and altogether looked as if he was dressed for a fancy ball. He was then taken to a steam-boat at the water-side, where he met above five hundred persons, who had been especially invited to see him die. The company ate, drank, and joked, as if it were a pleasure excursion. As the boat steamed out of the dock she turned up the river instead of down, and the party on board were treated to a view of the *Great Eastern*. This accomplished, the steamer laid a straight course for the island, which was surrounded by myriads of craft of all sizes. It was a bright, beautiful summer day, with hardly wind enough to stir the pennants on the mastsheads of the vessels. The sloop *E. A. Johnson* was anchored off the island, and had all her colours flying almost under Hicks's nose. He left the boat with two Roman Catholic priests, walked steadily to the gallows, and was hanged a moment afterwards. A suppressed murmur went up from the crowd (there were over ten thousand persons present), and they then turned to their former avocations. The Marshal's friends gave him a vote of thanks for his kindness in inviting them to the show."

so called from the form of the promontory on which it stands. The whole town is inclosed by walls, and is fortified by a sort of citadel which commands the port, while it could be easily defended on the land side were it not for the want of water, since it is only united to the plain by a tongue of land cut by salt marshes; but the only aqueduct which conveys water to Trapani from Mount San Giuliano would be too easily destroyed. Trapani is one of the principal ports of Sicily, and possesses considerable trade, although the harbour is open to the south-west wind, which on this coast is particularly dangerous. One of the chief articles of export is salt, which is obtained by the evaporation of the sea water in the extensive saltpans along the coast, and afterwards exported to Italy and to the ports in the Baltic. Some extensive coral manufactures are carried on in the town, the coral being gathered along the coast of Barbary, after which it is worked for the East Indian and European markets. One of the principal articles of commerce, however, are anchovies, which are caught along the coast in the months of February, March, and April. It is, perhaps, not surprising, when we consider how greatly the town is dependent for its entire trade on the produce of the sea, that the sailors of Trapani are amongst the best in Sicily, although it would be more difficult to account for another distinction which it enjoys in the reputed beauty of its women. Amongst the buildings may be noticed a collegiate church, the convents of the Jesuits and Carmelites, the townhouse adorned with the statues of Philip V. of Spain and of Victor Amadeus of Savoy, a Royal college, an orphan asylum, and several palaces of the nobility.

ALEXANDRE DUMAS AND THE BATTLE OF MELAZZO.

THE Paris *Presse* publishes a letter from M. Alexandre Dumas describing the engagement at Melazzo, of which he was an eyewitness. The following are extracts:—
“At dawn on the 20th all the troops were in movement to attack the Neapolitans, who had come out of the fort and village of Melazzo, which they occupied. Malenchini commanded the left, General Medici and Cosenz the centre; while the right was composed of a few companies only, intended to cover the centre and left wing from a surprise. Garibaldi was in the centre, where the action was expected to be the sharpest. The firing began on the left from the Neapolitan outposts, concealed in a reed-bed halfway between Miri and Melazzo. A quarter of an hour later the centre attacked the Neapolitan line and drove it from its first position. The right, meanwhile, dislodged the Neapolitans from some houses which they occupied. As the difficulties of the ground prevented reinforcements from arriving, Bosco,

COLONEL TURR'S DIVISION ENTERING ALIA.

On the 20th of June Colonel (now General) Turr was dispatched from Palermo into the interior of Sicily with a column of volunteers. Among other points touched at by the gallant Hungarian (who started from Palermo before he had recovered from the fatigues and wounds of a previous campaign, and who was compelled to take to a carriage before his column had marched many miles) was Alia, a town perched like many others in Sicily on the top of a steep, craggy hill. The column halted here, giving out correspondent time to take the sketch from which our illustration is made. As the volunteers approached, hundreds of the inhabitants, men, women, and children, with priests at their head, came out to give them a welcome, not less cheering from the fatigues they had endured in climbing the acclivity leading to this rock-built, old Saracenic town.

MARSALA.

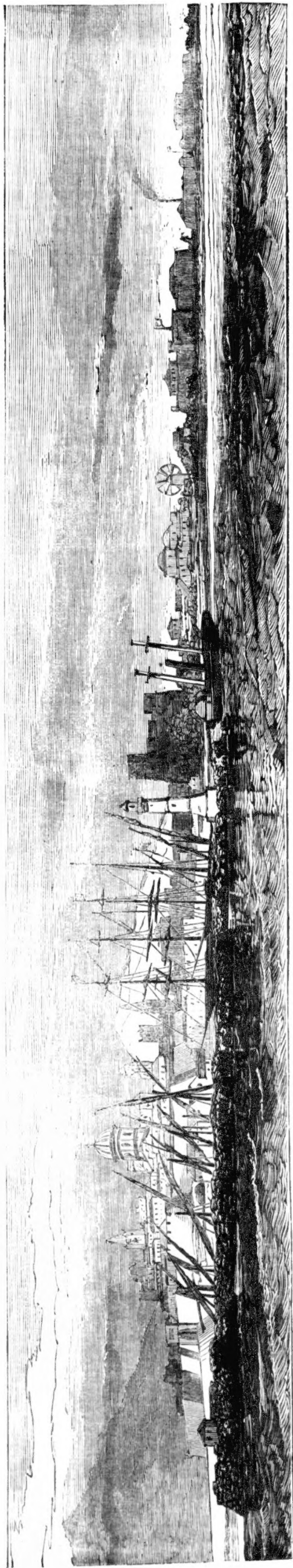
MARSALA will long remain celebrated as having been the landing-place of Garibaldi on his recent expedition to free a crushed people from the yoke of the tyrant of Naples. The town, which is of no very great importance, is situated on the western extremity of Sicily. The site is that of the ancient Lilybæum, which possessed a port, now filled up; there is at present, however, a good roadstead, sheltered by a small island, which lies off the coast. The town, which is pretty well built, was the work of the Saracens, and is of a square form, surrounded by an old wall flanked at the angles with bastions, and capable of being made a strong military position. The principal street, which runs through the middle of the town, is called the Cassaro, in which is situated the cathedral, a large edifice, with sixteen marble columns of the Corinthian order. Marsala possesses three abbeys, several convents, sixteen churches, a castle of some antiquity, an hospital, and numerous minor institutions. The population does not exceed 30,000, and the principal article of commerce is the wine called after the name of the place, and is prepared for exportation by an English establishment there, who send it, in great quantities, both to Malta and England.

TRAPANI.

TRAPANI, situated on the north-west coast of Sicily, is built on a point of land projecting into the sea. On the east of the town rises the mountain San Giuliano, which is in reality the celebrated Mount Eryx on which Hamilcar Barca is successfully for years resisted the Roman forces till the end of the first Punic War. The ancient name of the town was Drepanum, from the Greek word Drepanon (a scythe), and was



THE ENTRY OF COLONEL TURR'S DIVISION INTO ALIA.



VIEW OF MARSALA, SICILY.

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with 6000 men, turned upon the 500 or 600 men who had driven him back. The latter were at first obliged to retire before the superior numbers of the enemy; but, when other troops came up to their aid, they again attacked the enemy, many of whom were still concealed among reeds and protected by fig-trees, so that a charge with the bayonet was impossible. Medici, while advancing at the head of his men, had a horse killed under him. Cosens was struck in the neck by a spent ball and fell; he was only stunned, and almost instantly he was on his legs again, shouting, "Vive l'Italia!" Garibaldi, at the head of the Genese carabinieri and some guides, attempted to take the enemy in the flank; but suddenly came on a gun placed on the centre of the road, and which he determined to attack. When within twenty paces, the cannon, loaded with grape, was fired by the King's troops. The effect was terrible—only five or six men remained standing. Garibaldi had part of his boot and his stirrup carried away; his horse was also wounded, and he was compelled to alight. Major Breda and his trumpeter were killed by his side; Misori's horse fell dead under him; Starella was left standing unhurt in the midst of the iron storm; all the others were killed or wounded. The gun which had done all the mischief was taken soon after. Then the Neapolitan infantry opened and gave passage to a charge of fifty cavalry for the purpose of retaking the piece. Colonel Donon's men, who had been but little under fire, threw themselves to the sides of the road instead of receiving the charge on their

bayonets. The cavalry came like a whirlwind, the Sicilians firing from both sides. Thus assailed both right and left, the Commander of the Neapolitan cavalry stopped, and wanted to turn back, but found the passage barred by General Garibaldi, Misori, Starella, and five or six men. The General seized the officer's bridle, and cried out, "Surrender!" The officer replied with a blow of his sabre, which Garibaldi parried, and by a back stroke cut the officer's cheek open. The latter fell from his horse. Meanwhile, three or four salutes were raised against the General, who wounded one of his assailants with a thrust of his sabre, while Misori killed two others and the horse of a third with his revolver. Starella brought down one antagonist, while another, who sprang at Misori's throat, was killed by the fourth shot of his revolver. While this struggle was drawing to a close, Garibaldi rallied his scattered men, charged with them, and either took or killed the rest of the fifty horsemen. Seconded by his centre, he next charged the Neapolitans, Bavarians, and Swiss with the bayonet. The Neapolitans fled at once, but the Bavarians a Swiss made a short stand before they gave way. This decided the fate of the day.

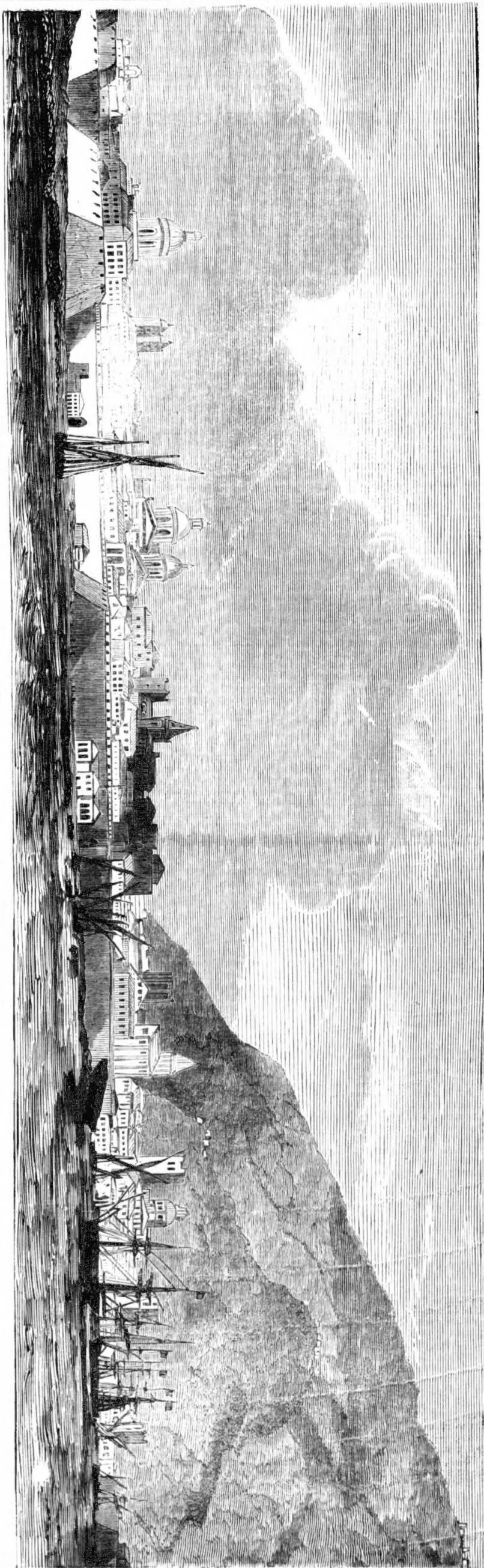
"The whole of the Neapolitan army takes the road to Melazzo. It is pursued as far as the first houses; there the guns of the fort take part in the combat. You know the situation of Melazzo, which is built on a ridge of land forming almost a promontory. The combat, which had commenced in the eastern gulf, had gradually retreated to the western. There the *Trakere* frigate (formerly the *Felice*) was stationed. General Garibaldi remembers that he was first brought up to be a seaman; he rushes to the deck of the *Trakere*, mounts on the yardarm, and thence overlooks the battle. A troop of Neapolitan cavalry, with infantry, was issuing from the fort to succour the Royal troops. Garibaldi has levelled against them a 60-pounder, which fires grape at them at less than quarter range. The Neapolitans fly without waiting for a second salute. Then a contest ensues between the fort and the frigate. Garibaldi sees that he has drawn upon himself the fire of the fort. He springs into a boat, steps on shore, and returns to where the fire of musketry from Melazzo is the hottest. These volleys of musketry last an hour longer, after which the Neapolitans, driven out from house after house, enter the castle.

"I had remained on board ship a spectator of the fight, and was impatient to embrace the victor. Night came on. It forced me to land, and, while listening to the report of the last musket-shot, we entered Melazzo. It is impossible to form an idea of the disorder and terror prevailing in the town, which is said to be not over-patriotic. The dead and wounded lay strewn in the streets. The French Consul's house was incumbered with the dying. General Cosens was among the number of the wounded. No one could tell me where Medici was or Garibaldi. In the midst of a group of officers I perceived Major Canni, who offered to lead me himself to where the General was. Then, going along the parts near the shore, we found the General under the porch of a church, and surrounded by his staff. He lay there, his head propped by his saddle, and exhausted with fatigue. He was sleeping.

LIFE AND DEATH IN ENGLAND.

Besides his quarterly report published about a month after the close of every quarter, the Registrar-General of England issues a more elaborate annual report, which takes much time to prepare. The report for 1858 has just appeared. Nearly a million and a half of names were inscribed on the national register in that year. It is a book into which we all get, for, even if we do not marry, we can neither enter life nor quit it without occupying our "line and a half" in this history, at all events.

Referring first, not to England alone, but to Great Britain, we find that its estimated population in the middle of 1858 was 22,626,334, and the excess of birth over deaths in the year 246,488. 789,676 children were born alive, 351,346 persons were married, and 613,188 died; so that, on an average, upon every day in the year 2080 children were born, 962 persons married, and 1405 died, leaving a gain of 675 as the result of the day. The



VIEW OF TRAPANI, SICILY.

birth rate for Great Britain was 33.57 to 1000 living, the death rate 22.68, the marriage rate (persons married) 15.52. For easy recollection it may be noted that rather more than twice as many are born in a year as are married, and the deaths should not be so high as midway between those two numbers. No 1000 people living in the two countries the births in the year were 33 in Great Britain, 27 in France—a very striking difference; the deaths 22 in Great Britain, 24 in France; the persons married 15.5 in Great Britain, 16.9 in France. In Scotland the marriages, if all registered, were not so numerous as in England; the births were almost exactly at the same rate; but the percentage of deaths in Scotland was only 2.047, in England 2.303. Turning now to England and Wales only, we learn that to every 1000 girls 1045 boys were born, and 102 males died to every 1000 females, the average of twenty-one years being 103; but there are more females living in England than males, and out of equal numbers living 105 males died to every 100 females, the average being 107. The births are always most numerous in the first half of the year: in 1858 they were as 2001 to 1009 in the two half-years. To every 100 women living of the age of 15-45 there were 14.3 births in the year. 43,305 children were born out of wedlock in 1858, or 1 in every 15 of all the children born alive; 106.2 boys were born illegitimate to every 100 illegitimate girls, while among children born in wedlock the boys were only 104.4 to 100 girls.

The marriages in 1858 were below the average. Marriages are celebrated in England and Wales in 12,350 churches, and in 4072 chapels not belonging to the Establishment, 605 of these being Roman Catholic. There were 128,082 marriages celebrated in churches, and 27,988 otherwise, 6643 being of Roman Catholics, and 5952 in the Registrar's office, and not at any place of religious worship. The marriages of minors increased from 885 in 1843, to 1212, in 1858. To every 130 marriages in 1858 by licence there were 728 by banns, which may be taken as the proportion of marriages of the higher and middle classes to those of the lower. In 1841, 41 in 100 of the persons married had to sign the register with their mark; in 1858 only 32; the improvement is most striking among the women. In 1858, 73 in 100 men, and 62 in 100 women, wrote their names on this important occasion.

The mortality of the year was high. The deaths in the chief towns were at the rate of 2.655; in the country districts, 2.006. The deaths in the Army abroad were more than usual, in consequence of the Indian mutiny. The average strength of the Army abroad was 111,730, and the deaths abroad were no less than 7863—more than double the number in the previous year, when the strength was 77,676. The number of merchant seamen at sea in 1858 is calculated at 171,832, and 3486 deaths at sea among this body were reported to the Registrar-General of Merchant Seamen, with an account of their effects. This would be 19.6 in 1000—a high rate among men of their age and physical advantages. This return does not include seamen dying ashore in foreign parts; the account of their effects is sent to the Board of Trade by the Consuls. The captains of vessels return the births of 112 English subjects in British vessels at sea, and 330 deaths. We close with a

table, which must be read with the recollection that on our side the population of Scotland and Ireland, between 9,000,000 and 10,000,000, are not included:—

	England and Wales.	France.
Estimated population..	18,618,760	36,153,682
Marriages	139,727	196,670
Births	634,405	923,461
Deaths	437,905	449,656

THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH NAVIES.

The *Debate* has an article explanatory of the yearly increase of the French Navy.—“The plans of the French Government as regards naval organisation have been published, and are well known. The volume of the French Budget, which is published every year, regularly refers to this programme; and ‘Les Comples Detrits du Ministere de la Marine,’ another annual and rather voluminous publication, shows in what manner and with what degree of celerity this programme is followed. Now, in what does it consist? It is destined to endow France with a steam navy, the principal force of which will be in forty ships of the line—fifteen first rate and twenty-five second. In what time is this plan to become a reality? In fourteen years from the 1st of January, 1857. It appears probable that these forty line-of-battle ships may be finished sooner; but, nevertheless, they cannot be until 1867; in a word, France proceeds in a way which does not show any precipitation or impatience. According to the plan, the three chapters of the Budget, viz., and ix.—and having for object, one, the wages of workmen, the second, the general supplies of the fleet, and the third, hydraulic works and civil buildings—receive every year a collective grant of 65,000,000, out of which only 16,000,000, or 17,000,000, are devoted to the increase of the fleet and the ports. The publication above alluded to shows that this programme is observed as faithfully as possible. The chapter of accidents and of unforeseen events sometimes renders the addition of a few millions to the grant necessary, as, for instance, in 1858, when the expense of the three chapters together amounted to 70,000,000, instead of 65,000,000. If Lord Palmerston would take the trouble of looking through the accounts of the British Admiralty he could not say that this is exorbitant. In 1858 each of the two States then possessed twenty steam line-of-battle ships in good condition; we say nothing of those which were failures, and represented no real force, and this category was numerous on both sides. But from that time the Derby Cabinet carried on the naval constructions with the greatest vigour, as though war had been imminent. Thanks to the powerful means, unique in the world, which are to be found in the English naval arsenals, those efforts were attended with prompt results. The last months of 1858 were so well employed that in 1859 eleven line-of-battle ships were launched and fitted out (we continue to speak of steamers only), some entirely new and others altered from sailing-

vessels. When the Whigs succeeded the Tories in power Lord Clarence Paget did Sir John Pakington, the First Lord of the Admiralty under the Derby Cabinet, the justice to say that England had about forty effective line-of-battle ships. This was on the 8th of July. Thus, on the 8th of July, 1859, England had a naval force equal in number and superior in the size of the vessels to what the French fleet is to be in 1867. The Palmerston Cabinet, knowing how high the Navy stood in the opinion of the English public, did not wish to show less zeal than their predecessors, and carried on the armaments with redoubled ardour. New and considerable credits were demanded, and ten new line-of-battle ships were laid on the stocks, and six sailing-vessels transformed into steamers. Lord Clarence Paget announced that by the end of the financial year (March 31, 1860) England would have about fifty line-of-battle ships, besides the guard-ships. In addition to this formidable force there were also thirty-seven frigates and a hundred and forty corvettes, sloops, and floating batteries. The lovers of large armaments did not, however consider this to be enough; and the Whig Cabinet, in order to satisfy them, called on the country for fresh sacrifices. According to the statement made to the House of Commons by Lord Clarence Paget in February last the English Government would, by the 31st of March, 1861, have ten sail-of-the-line more afloat—making the number sixty, and a proportionate increase in frigates and other smaller vessels—all steamers. At the same period France would only have twenty-five sail-of-the-line. France proceeds patiently—we might even say placidly—confident in her strength and in the accomplishment of a plan perfectly defined beforehand; while England goes on with an ardent, not to say feverish, impatience. She has no defined plan; her programme, on the contrary, is unlimited, and takes constantly-increasing proportions."

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 141. FAILURE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY MACHINE.

This Parliamentary machine of ours does not do its work in a satisfactory manner. It moves but fitfully and irregularly. Sometimes it whirls round with dangerous velocity; at others it hardly moves at all. And, moreover, the cartloads of raw material which we shovel into the hopper comes out but slowly, much of it, indeed, not at all; and that which it does eject is often so marred as to be useless. The Parliamentary engineers are not at all agreed as to the cause of this failure. Some say that the machine is simply loaded too heavily, that too much raw material is shovelled into the hopper. Others affirm that the machine is wrongly constructed, and must be taken to pieces and reformed upon a new principle and upon "a wider basis." Meanwhile there can be no doubt that there is something wrong somewhere; for here we are, the first week in August well-nigh gone, and it has not yet turned off the supplies necessary for the year—a feature never heard of before in the history of this machine. What is the matter, then? Surely, this question ought to be laid to heart by every Englishman, and pondered well. A certain high personage some years back said that our Parliamentary machine was "on its trial." Has it failed, then? A serious question, truly; for it is a very old machine, for centuries has done its work well, and on some trying occasions has worked so grandly as to become Englishmen's special boast and the world's admiration. And that it should fail now, when other nations are lifting up their heads, and with stern resolution are demanding of their rulers to have something like it, is melancholy enough.

WHAT IS THE CAUSE?—TOO HEAVILY LOADED.

Well, there are several causes. In the first place, the machine has been loaded too heavily; or, to drop our figure, the House of Commons has had too much work thrust upon it this Session. Just let us see what it has been called upon to do. First, there is Parliamentary reform; secondly, fiscal and commercial reform—that Budget of Gladstone's, to wit—and the French Treaty; thirdly, law reform, in the shape of a bankruptcy bill of more than four hundred clauses, and certain consolidation bills, containing together three hundred clauses more; and, fourthly, Indian Army reform, besides a legion of other measures more of the routine class, and, of course, the supplies, not forgetting a special supply for the Chinese War, and another for fortifications. Now, we venture to assert that this is too much, more than the House of Commons could do under the most favourable circumstances. Indeed, the ordinary business of the House has become of late years so heavy that a single extraordinary measure of an important character added thereto is sure to cause serious pressure and difficulty. But to thrust upon it some four or five special, heavy, and important duties was most unwise. In short, the Government has attempted impossibilities, and has, of course, failed. This, then, is the one chief cause of our present difficulties. The Parliamentary stomach (to be again figurative) has been overloaded—has vainly attempted to digest what was put into it—has, like other stomachs in similar circumstances, thrown great part of it back, only partially digested the rest, and got thoroughly out of order by being thus forced to attempt to carry a load beyond its power.

AND TOO MUCH TALK.

But still there is another patent fault in our Parliamentary institution, and one which, if not reformed, will, we fear, lead to disastrous results. We allude to the *cacœthes loquendi*—the passion for talk—which has seized upon our House of Commons of late years like a madness. The name of the national assembly of our Saxon forefathers was "Wittenagemote," an assembly of wise men. When the national council was revived after the Norman Conquest the name of "Parliament" was given to it, from the French word "Parlement," meaning an assembly of talkers. It was an ominous change. Our forefathers, however, had no idea of the prophecy that was contained in this word. They made no long speeches, we may be sure; probably no speeches at all such as we have now. They debated the propositions which were brought before them, no doubt; but it was rather conversationally than oratorically; in short, sharp incisive and decisive remarks, and not in long, diffusive harangues, and had no more notion of what their Parliament would become than the men before the Deluge suspected that the waters in the sea and in the rivers would some day arise and overwhelm the earth. That, however, which they never meant and never suspected has been fulfilled, and Parliament has become in painful reality what its name foreshadowed—an assembly of talkers. And here let us say that no man who is not an habitual attendant in the House can form anything like an accurate notion of the extent of this evil. The reports in the morning papers give but a faint idea of it; for there only the speeches of our principal men are reported at length; all the others are abridged; and speeches which occupied an hour in delivery are cut down to some score or two of lines in the report. We wish sometimes that it were otherwise—that the papers would, at least occasionally, report some of the dreary talkers at length and literally. Perhaps then they would be ashamed of their own performances, and, like Macbeth, when his work appeared before him, exclaim, "Thou canst not say I did it!" and repent, and sin no more. Or, failing this effect, the people might become indignant that their members thus wasted the valuable time of the House, and bring them to sharp account on the hustings for their sins.

VANITY.

The root of this evil is not far to seek. It is, simply, vanity—one of the most pernicious vices that infest the human mind. An egregious, overwhelming self-conceit, leading to an inordinate desire to shine, to become distinguished, and urging its victim to be everlastingly—at all times, and in all places, in season or out of season, whether men will hear or forbear—thrusting himself before the public. Now, we all know what a bore such a man is at a dinner-table; how he engrosses all the talk; how, perforce, he silences better men who have really something valuable to say; and how, in short, he mars all the pleasure which hosts and guests had anticipated from the social gathering. The mischief, however, in such cases is private and limited; but in the House of Commons the evil inflicted by such a bore is natural and disastrous to a degree which cannot be calculated. If we were disposed to give examples of this class of men in the House we could easily do so, for their name is legion. Perhaps the worst example is that honour-

able member from the west of England (whom, in accordance with Parliamentary etiquette, we will not name) who so often bores the House that he seldom rises without a greeting of shouts of derisive exclamations. This gentleman is one of the most singular specimens of humanity that Nature ever made—unique, we should say; for we venture to think that there is no other man in the world who can talk so long and say so little as he. Indeed, we never hear the honourable gentleman without wondering how nature could give such facility of speech to a man who has so few ideas to express. He must be a *lusus nature*, we imagine. Or take that noted Irish gentleman who, perhaps, is still more voluble and voluminous—if we may coin a word. This gentleman's talk is inexhaustible; he positively takes no note of time when he speaks, and never yet sat down because he was exhausted. There is a story that he once, at a morning sitting, talked on the subject of the Maynooth Grant for four hours, and then sat down with an expression of sorrow that the time to adjourn had arrived, as he had still a great deal more to say. Or that Scotch gentleman who represents an English borough, whose pertinacity in talking and his clacking Scotch accent led a witty friend of ours to say that he ought to represent *Clackmannan*. But time would fail if we were to attempt to enumerate one-half of our Parliamentary bores; for so fast have they increased in number of late that only a short note to each would occupy more than treble the space that we have at command. We therefore stop short. We may, however, venture to hint that the attempt to cure this evil which we have suggested ought to be tried. Will the editor of the *Times* kindly take the matter into consideration, and try the experiment of occasionally reporting these gentlemen in full and literally? Or if the exigency of space positively forbids such a trial, as we can easily conceive that it may, then, perhaps, he will consider whether it would not be well not to report them at all. Neither of these methods might succeed, for if this madness is so rapid that its victims will talk, as they often do, when nobody listens, they will, perhaps, go on talking even though nobody can read what they say. But if it should succeed,—think of that, O Editor of the *Times*! Some years ago a brass tablet was voted to celebrate an achievement of yours; but if you could succeed in curing this evil you shall have a statue set up on one of the vacant pedestals of the lobby, for this, we are quite sure, a grateful Parliament will unanimously vote to such a benefactor to mankind. Nor need you entertain the smallest fear that by stopping the utterance of these gentlemen any loss of light upon the subject will follow, not so much as the small ray of a rushlight, we can assure you. On the contrary, we may say of every one of these bores, as the hon. member for Lambeth said on a late occasion, when the Secretary of the Admiralty sat down, "The hon. gentleman has thrown less light upon the subject than we had before."

BREACH OF THE ORDERS.

There is yet another cause of "the lark" which has occurred in our Parliamentary proceedings, and that is the neglect of the House to observe its own rules and orders. As an instance of this neglect we need only to point to the proceedings of the House on Friday week. On the motion that the House do adjourn at its rising till Monday next the Home Secretary spoke twice. Now, this he had no right to do, nor was there any special occasion to do so; for, surely, those ghosts of mischievous foreigners which Mr. Bentinck called up, who are in case of an invasion to cut our telegraphic wires, and pull up our railways, required no authoritative voice of the guardian angel at the Home Office to lay them, for those extravagant and erring spirits were seen by nobody but by the honourable member for West Norfolk. This irregularity was noticed by Mr. Bernal Osborne; but Mr. Speaker overruled Mr. Osborne's objection by saying that by permission of the House the Home Secretary could speak again. Now, this is entirely a new doctrine, for it is one of the inextinguishable rules of the House that no member shall speak twice upon the same question. At all events, as it seems to us, if the House has the power without notice to relax this rule, which would seem to be doubtful, the question ought to be put formally before it, and it should not be taken for granted that the House wishes its rule to be relaxed because no motion is made to the contrary. Again, later in the evening, two or three long speeches were made by leading members of the House, which, as they referred to a bill before the House, and not then under discussion, were out of order. This Mr. Speaker noticed after the speeches had been made; but the mischief had been done, and the time lost could not be recalled. And then there is the practice of moving the adjournment of the House in order to allow the mover to make a speech. It is easy to see how a member on Friday night, or at any time when the motion for the adjournment comes formally before the House, can introduce any subject, for the theory is then that he opposes the adjournment because the business which he wishes to bring before the House is too important to be postponed. But by what rule, or by what theory, a member can move the adjournment just to enable him to make a speech, which if it has any meaning must mean that the House ought not to adjourn, we are wholly at a loss to understand. When a man moves that the House do adjourn it is understood that he means that it should adjourn; but in this case the member moves the adjournment, and then proceeds to introduce important or unimportant business to delay the adjournment. Such motions may be in order according to the letter, but we unhesitatingly affirm that the whole spirit of the admirable rules and orders of the House condemn them. Indeed, the late Speaker more than once in our recollection called the attention of the House to this irregularity, and it was for the time sharply and decisively put down.

HORSMAN IN MUTINY.

Since the above was written we have had several fresh examples of the rebellious spirit which prevails in the House—a spirit which, if it be not quelled and effectually put down, will inevitably ruin the character of the House of Commons, and make Parliamentary government impossible. The first and chief sinner was Mr. Horsman. Three times that night did he openly defy the authorities—twice the Speaker and once the Chairman of Committees. Such conduct is in the highest degree reprehensible. If a young and inexperienced member thus acted his conduct might be excusable; but Mr. Horsman is an old member, knows the rules of the House as well as the Speaker, and this malicious behaviour is unpardonable in him. That it was temper that led Mr. Horsman to set at naught the rules of the House no other fact is needed to prove than this:—When Mr. Speaker rose to call him to order, Mr. Horsman refused to sit down, but in a defiant manner confronted the Speaker, and only resumed his seat when compelled to do so by the storm of cries of "Chair! chair! Order! order!" which arose from every part of the House.

ROCK AHEAD.

The Government ship has been for some time past working up for Vacation Bay, heavily laden, and against wind and tide, but still with hope that at no very distant day the bay would be reached, the sails furled, and the anchor dropped. But, lo! suddenly there comes a cry of "Rock ahead!" and there looms through the mist a huge mass, in which, without dexterous steering and the special favour of the heavens, the good ship will certainly strike and go to pieces in the very sight of the harbour. In plain words, we are likely next week to have a battle, a defeat, a resignation, and perhaps a dissolution. Strange things these, in August! but certainly not unlikely, as matters stand. The case is this:—Her Majesty, through her Ministers, entered into a commercial treaty with France. "Her Majesty's faithful Commons" recognised, ratified, and thanked her Majesty for the treaty; and, further, deliberately promised her Majesty to make arrangements to carry out the same. Now, however, "Her Majesty's Opposition," moved thereto by certain alarmed papermakers and others, and perhaps by ambition for place, and malice against her Majesty's Ministers generally, and her Chancellor in particular, threatens to refuse to allow the House to perform its promise; and, in short, to oppose that arrangement of the customs duty on paper which the Chancellor proposes, and which is involved in the treaty. And it is said that, with the aid of certain of the Liberal party, upon whom the screw has been put by papermaking constituents, will be strong enough to beat the Government. How this will be time only can tell us. Meanwhile, the clang of the Treasury and Opposition whips is everywhere

sounding; faces which had disappeared from the House are showing again, and all the auguries point to a sharp struggle.

But what is this that Gladstone is announcing to the House? "The resolution on the paper duties is to be divided into two parts; one embracing France only, and the other the rest of the world." What does this mean? The Government authorities affirm that it is in accordance with precedence, and means nothing; but Rumour, with her hundred tongues, is babbling loudly that it means compromise. The Conservatives are to accept the first, and the Government is to give up the last, and thus we are to escape the threatened smash. Government is bound by the treaty to fight for the first resolution to the last, and, if defeated, must perforce resign; but, not being bound in any way to the last, will, like the beaver, cut off their tail, throw it to its hungry pursuers, and thus escape. But the whips are still busy as ever.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Militia Bill, the Maynooth College Bill, the County Coroners Bill, and several others were read a second time. Other measures were passed through Committee; and the Bleaching and Dyeing Works Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ABD-EL-KADER.—THE NEAPOLITAN ENVOY.

Mr. GRIFFITH asked whether accounts had been received that Abd-el-Kader had greatly exerted himself to prevent the massacre at Damascus, and had sheltered many Christians in his own house; and if so, whether some decoration or other mark of distinction and approbation should not be conferred upon him?

Lord J. RUSSELL said there had been no official accounts of what had occurred at Damascus. In reference to an answer which he had given on the previous evening as to the object of the special Envoy of the King of Naples, that gentleman had requested him to say that, although his mission was to obtain a joint action of England, France, and Piedmont, to procure an armistice with Garibaldi, he had never asked that force should be used for that purpose, as had been stated by him (Lord J. Russell) on Thursday evening.

MARITIME TREATY WITH FRANCE.

On the motion for the adjournment to Monday, the usual desultory debates arising out of a series of miscellaneous questions ensued, the most prominent being the following:—

Mr. LINDSAY inquired what steps had been taken to carry out the resolution of the House with regard to the maritime treaty with France?

Lord J. RUSSELL said that Lord Cowley had been empowered to negotiate with the French Government on the subject of a maritime treaty. There was then a clamour raised in France against the treaty of commerce on the ground of the loss of protection against British manufactures; and it was thought that the moment was inopportune, and France could not entertain any proposal for the repeal of her navigation laws.

CRUELITIES AT SEA.

In reply to Mr. Milnes, Sir G. C. LEWIS said the Government had entered into negotiations with America to remedy the impunity with which crimes are committed on board vessels trading between the United States and this country.

FOREIGNERS IN ENGLAND.

Mr. BENTINCK called attention to the necessity, in the present aspect of affairs in Europe, of conferring on the Government more stringent powers for dealing with foreigners of suspicious character resident in this country. He stated that this subject was immediately connected with the question of a foreign invasion of this country, and by France especially. In such a case electric wires and railways would be of the first importance; and it would be easy for some of the thousands of foreigners of doubtful character resident in this country to destroy the telegraph and break up the railways at the moment of a descent on our shores.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said that if war should arise it would be competent to the House to give the Government the authority of an Alien Act, if necessary; but he could not admit the necessity of Government being armed with power against persons who were only suspected of being suspicious characters.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Mr. HORSMAN called attention to the state of public business, and especially in regard to Indian legislation. The Indian Local Army Bill—a measure of vital importance—and five or six other bills, had been brought in with little or no notice, and at the latest period of the Session, while there was a complete uncertainty as to whether there would be a statement of Indian finance. A bill had been introduced into the other House which bore the title of the Coast of Africa Amendment Bill, by which it was absolutely provided that any part of the Indian territories of her Majesty might be withdrawn from the operation of the Act of 1858 for the government of India and transferred to the Colonial department. There would be no opportunity of considering this singular measure by this House. These were sufficient reasons for postponing Indian legislation this year, and still more was it necessary since the differences between the Secretary for India and his Council were on record.

Sir C. WOOD explained that the Coast of Africa Amendment Bill referred only to the placing of the territory in the Indian Straits, and Singapore especially, under the Colonial department; and the large words which Mr. Horsman said would enable any part of the Indian empire to be transferred to that department were objected to by the Indian Office, and were to have been struck out. As to the bills relating to India, three of them were of little importance, and only to remove doubts as to matters of administration; and a fourth was only to enable East India dividends to be paid through the Bank of England. He urged that the question of the reorganisation of the Indian Army had been under consideration since 1853, and had been decided on by the late Government, and, therefore, it could not be said that it was brought forward without due notice. Delay in the matter would be productive of the most injurious consequences; and the House should at once either accept or reject the bill before it.

Mr. T. BARING having spoken in favour of delay in Indian legislation, Lord PALMERSTON, while admitting that unavoidable circumstances had prevented the bringing on of these measures at an earlier period, could not agree that therefore important matters should be thrown over for another year. If the House would practically set about it, there was yet time, by prolonging the Session a little later than usual, to do the requisite business. Certainly the discussion which had taken place on the motion for adjournment that evening did not tend to that object. If the Indian Army Bill was not finished that evening, it would be continued on Monday, the subject of the fortifications being postponed.

Mr. DIERAKI attributed the unprecedented position with regard to its business in which the House was placed to the circumstances under which the present Government came into office, and he reviewed those circumstances at length, showing that the great measures of the Ministry, though great failures, had occupied all the available time of the Session. He hoped that, notwithstanding the change in the order of business announced, the day fixed for the paper duty would not be changed.

Lord PALMERSTON said it would not be altered.

The motion for adjournment to Monday was then agreed to.

THE INDIA BILL.

The adjourned debate on Sir J. Elphinstone's motion on going into Committee on the Indian Army Bill was resumed by Mr. ROKESBURY, who contended that the bill revolutionised the whole government of India.

The debate was continued by Lord J. Russell, Mr. M. Milnes, and Colonel Dickson.

The motion was then negatived. Mr. M. MILNES then moved an instruction to the Committee that all appointments to military commands in India (the commands-in-chief alone excepted) and all staff appointments, whether military, naval, or medical, be voted in the Governor-General in Council.

On the motion of Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR, the debate was adjourned to Monday.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at two o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ROMAN STATES.

The Marquis of NORMANBY moved for copies or extracts from the despatches of her Majesty's Minister in Tuscany in 1855, 1856, and 1857, referring to the condition and administration of the Roman States, stating his object to be to complete the information already produced as to his own conduct and that of Mr. Lyons in their communications with the Papal Government.

The motion was acceded to by Lord Wodehouse, and agreed to. Several bills were forwarded a stage, after which their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.
SYRIA.

In answer to Mr. B. Osborne, Sir J. Fergusson, and Sir C. Napier, Lord J. Russell said that a proposition was made some time ago that a commission should be sent to Syria, some of the members of which should be other than Turks; and Lord Dufferin had been instructed to proceed to Syria to form part of that commission on the part of this country. There would be shortly five sail of the line under Admiral Martin at Beyrout. There was no intention of sending British troops to Syria.

BRITISH GRAVES AT SEBASTOPOL.

In answer to Mr. H. Seymour, Lord J. Russell said measures were in progress for appointing a person with a fixed salary to watch the graves of the British at Sebastopol, and he believed there would be no objection to that course by the Russian Government.

THE INDIA BILL.—FORTIFICATIONS.

The adjourned debate on going into Committee on the European Forces (India) Bill was about to be resumed, when

Mr. HORSMAN, having more than once been called to order by the Speaker for attempting to put a question to Lord Palmerston after the order of the day had been put, moved as an amendment the adjournment of the House, for the purpose of calling attention to the state of the business of the House, protesting against the postponement of the discussion of the question of the fortifications, and asked that some day should be positively fixed for that purpose.

The SPEAKER interposed, and pointed out the irregularity of the right hon. gentleman's proceedings.

Lord PALMERSTON said that he was most anxious to bring on the question of fortifications, but the important subject of the Indian Army was first in order, and he asked Mr. Horsman to assist him in getting rid of the system of obstruction which had been used to delay the latter subject.

Mr. H. SEYMOUR then resumed the debate on the European Forces (India) Bill, the point being Mr. Milnes's instruction to the Committee, that all military commands and appointments be reserved to the Governor-General, which he supported.

Colonel SYKES also supported the motion.

Sir C. WOOD urged that there was not a word in the proposed bill which altered any authority vested in the Governor-General and the authorities in India with regard to military appointments, and the instruction was wholly unnecessary.

Mr. RICH, though opposed to the measure, yet thought the proposed instructions only tended to delay, and advised their withdrawal.

Sir E. COLEBROOK joined in this appeal, and urged a direct course against the bill.

The motion was then negatived.

Sir J. FERGUSSON then moved that, in the opinion of the House, it is inexpedient to proceed further with legislation respecting the European troops in India until the whole plan of the Government for the regulation of the military force of that country shall have been submitted to the consideration of Parliament. The hon. gentleman, in a lengthy speech, reviewed the whole question of the local Indian Army in all its bearings, arguing strongly against the proposed amalgamation.

Mr. T. BAKING seconded the motion.

A division was immediately taken, and the motion was rejected by 88 to 50.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE moved the adjournment of the House, for the purpose of once more protesting against the measure.

Sir E. COLEBROOK hoped that the opposition to the bill would be earnestly continued at its next stage.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY also took the opportunity of delivering a lengthy speech in favour of the maintenance of a local force in India.

Lord PALMERSTON characterised the obstructive course taken by the opponents of the measure as unconstitutional, the proceeding being that of a minority resorting to every device to defeat by delay that which they could not carry by argument. He would not be coerced by this factious course, and would go on as long as health and strength permitted in his efforts to carry the measure.

The motion for adjournment was withdrawn.

The debate was carried on by Mr. Malins, Colonel Sykes, Mr. Vansittart, Colonel Dunne, and Sir C. Wood.

After a speech from Colonel P. HERBERT in favour of the bill, the House went into Committee, when

Mr. HENLEY moved at end of clause 1 to insert the following proviso:—Provided that the provision made for the sons of persons who have served in India, and the advantages as to pay, pensions, allowances, privileges, promotion, and otherwise, secured to the military forces of the East India Company by the Act of the 21st and 22nd years of the Queen, c. 106, secs. 35, 36, and 58, respectively, shall continue and be maintained in any plan for the reorganisation of the Indian Army, anything in this Act contained notwithstanding.

Sir C. WOOD pointed out that it was never intended to interfere with the pensions secured to the military forces in India; but he was willing to accept the addition, because it would prove his intention of keeping faith with the officers of the Indian Army.

The clause was so amended and agreed to.

It having been proposed to take the report next day (Tuesday), and the third reading on Thursday,

Mr. HORSMAN objected, and took occasion to complain of the conduct of the Speaker, in, as he said, twice suppressing discussions by his haste in putting the question.

Sir G. GRAY complained of the hon. member impugning the conduct of the Speaker in his absence.

Mr. HORSMAN persisted in his accusation against the Speaker.

Mr. B. OSBORNE urged that there should be a definite time fixed for the discussion on the fortifications.

The House then resumed.

CHURCH AFFAIRS.

On the consideration of the Ecclesiastical Commission Bill, Mr. GRIFFITH moved a clause the effect of which was to deprive the clerical members of the Ecclesiastical Commission from voting on any scheme proposed.

On a division the clause was rejected by 202 to 28.

Mr. AYTON moved a clause the effect of which was that the surplus revenues of Church property situate in the metropolis or any other city or town in the hands of the Commission should be applied in the first place to the spiritual wants of those localities.

Other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter past two o'clock.

TUESDAY, JULY 31.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE NEW ZEALAND BILL.

Lord LYTTLETON moved that the New Zealand Bill be read a third time that day three months. He strongly objected to the system of withdrawing colonial questions from the influence of colonial authority, and expressed a hope that the home Government would before long give the colonists more power of discussing such questions as the bill involved.

Lord LYVEDEN supported the motion.

Lord GRANVILLE did not see the propriety of postponing the bill for another Session. He briefly explained under what circumstances the Government had introduced this measure in the Imperial Parliament.

Lord DERBY would not like to take on himself the responsibility of rejecting this measure. He preferred leaving the responsibility of passing it with the Government.

The bill was then read a third time.

After some further business their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PAPER DUTIES.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, with reference to the motion of which he had given notice on the subject of the paper duties, stated that it was his intention to move two resolutions—one relating to the importation of paper from France under the treaty obligation, the other affirming the same duties in relation to the importation of paper from other parts.

SAVINGS BANKS AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

On the order for going into Committee upon the Savings Banks and Friendly Societies Investment Bill,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was not his intention to proceed with the main substance of the bill, but simply that portion which enlarged the power of the Commissioners to make purchases and hold investments for savings-banks and friendly societies without being limited, as at present, to certain stocks—part of the national debt—there being other stocks and securities under the guarantee of Parliament. He proposed to amend the 4th clause so as to empower the Commissioners to hold all stocks and securities under Parliamentary guarantee, constituting the national debt under whatever name.

The House then went into Committee, when the 4th clause (amended) and the 17th clause were agreed to.

IRELAND AND THE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

Colonel FRENCH moved for leave to bring in a bill to extend to Ireland all powers to make rules and regulations for the enrolment and organisation of volunteer corps which are now by law applicable to Great Britain, urging the policy as well as injustice of debarring the Executive Government of Ireland—a part of the United Kingdom most exposed to invasion—from placing it in the same position in relation to the raising of volunteer corps as England and Scotland.

Mr. CARDWELL, without distrusting the loyalty of the people of Ireland, or their readiness to rally round the Throne, and to resist any attempt at invasion, observed that considerations of great importance, in connection with the internal state of some parts of Ireland, led the Government to the conclusion that it was not judicious or expedient to agree to the motion.

Mr. MAGUIRE denounced the policy of the Government in not trusting the people of Ireland. If bad blood existed among them, the blame, he said, was attributable to the Government, which could put down Orange as well as Ribbon confederacies. The distrust shown to the people of Ireland confirmed the disaffection which existed in a large mass of them, who, armed or unarmed, he believed, would not meet invaders as foes.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that Mr. Maguire had not held out great encouragement to the Government to depart from their intention, and to accept the proposal to place arms in the hands of the people of Ireland. On the part of the people of Ireland, however, he denied the aspersion which Mr. Maguire had cast upon his countrymen. Ireland could not be said to be without means of defence with 60,000 trained men.

After some further discussion the motion was negatived, upon a division, by 86 to 30.

THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. W. EWART moved a series of resolutions for the better regulation of the business of the House:—1. That the discussion on the principle of a bill be confined to the time of its introduction and second or third reading. 2. That when, on a motion, that the Speaker leave the chair for going into a Committee of Supply, any discussion or debate arise, it be not continued beyond eight of the clock. 3. That public bills which have been proceeded with in a previous Session may be resumed at the stage which they left off at in the next Session. 4. That bills introduced by the Government be, as far as is practicable, brought on and proceeded with early in the Session. 5. That the best means of improving and expediting the business of the House be considered by the Government in the interval between the Sessions, with the view to submitting the subject to the deliberation of a Select Committee in the ensuing Session of Parliament.

After some discussion, Mr. EWART withdrew his motion.

The House was counted out at twenty-five minutes to nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House discussed in Committee the remaining details of the Attorneys, Solicitors, Proctors, and Certificated Conveyancers Bill; and afterwards—the Votes for the Disqualified Candidates Bill having been in the interval withdrawn—went into Committee on the Metropolitan Local Management Act Amendment Bill, which, after the original clauses had been agreed to, encountered a persevering opposition upon certain new clauses being proposed, the discussion of which occupied the remainder of the time allotted to debate.

The Augmentation of Small Benefices (Ireland) Bill, the Infants' Marriage Act Amendment Bill, and the East India Stock Transfer Bill, passed through Committee.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The following bills were read a third time and passed—viz., Mines Regulation and Inspection, Militia, Metropolitan Police Force (Dockyards), Heritable Securities, &c. (Scotland), Turnpike Acts Continuance, Maynooth College, Bank of Ireland (No. 2), Weights and Measures (Ireland), Sheriff's Court Houses (Scotland), Common Law Procedure (Ireland) Act (1853) Amendment, Copyhold and Inclosure Commissions, &c., Turnpike Trusts Arrangements, Municipal Corporations (Ireland) Act Amendment, Smith's Field Market, Streets and Improvements, Prisons (Scotland), Police and Towns Improvement (Scotland) Act Amendment, and County Coroners Bills.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Lord PALMERSTON moved that the standing order of the 25th day of June, 1852, relative to orders of the day, be read, and repealed; and, in lieu thereof, moved that, unless the House shall otherwise direct, all orders of the day set down in the order book for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, shall be disposed of before the House will proceed upon any motions of which notices shall have been given; that the said resolution be a standing order of this House. In proposing this resolution the noble Lord passed a high compliment upon those members who devoted their attention to the private business of the House.

FORTIFICATIONS AND WORKS.

The House resumed the Committee on this bill. Mr. LINDSAY rose to move an amendment to the vote proposed on a previous evening. He remarked that the vote asked for was nine millions, but if they capitalised that sum at four per cent they would find that they were that evening asked to vote no less a sum than fifty-nine millions. Adverting to the recent letter of the Emperor of the French, he said that he had perfect faith in his statements. His armies had been, and were, associated with ours, and we had entered into a commercial treaty with France. He treated with ridicule these proposed fortifications, for it was not to be supposed that an invading army would attempt to land immediately under these guns while there were so many places where it might land if it were so disposed. Our main strength had ever been upon the waters, and ever would be; and the introduction of steam rendered land fortifications less necessary than they had ever previously been. More than that, we had a free, united, and contented people, who would prove the best defence of their country. We had, moreover, 130,000 volunteers, and in case of danger that number would soon be increased to a million, and before such a body of men no French army could stand. He moved as an amendment that it was not now expedient to expend large sums upon land fortifications.

Mr. H. BAKERLEY said the proper plan he thought would be to depend upon our good right arms for the defence of our country. He did not understand why the noble Lord should resort to stone walls instead of those wooden walls which had protected us so long. He denied that we were in any more danger now than we had been in previous years, and he thought that the noble Lord was bound to prove that we had less means of resisting invasion than we had formerly. He repeated his conviction that our main defence was on the seas, and that if France became master of the seas nothing could prevent England becoming a province of France. The only way we could successfully fight the Frenchman would be when his cabbage soup and his sour wine were conflicting together at sea.

Mr. S. HERBERT denied that the French had the number of guns represented, and defended the course which had been adopted in the English Navy. With regard to the letter of the Emperor of France he remarked that he was not at all inclined to cast discredit upon that statement, but it must be remembered that circumstances were sometimes stronger than men, and that everything we possessed depended upon peace. The Emperor of the French was strengthening his fortifications at Cherbourg, Brest, Toulon, and other places, and we had no right to complain of it; but we were bound to remember this, that our dockyards were weaker than they should be, and that a navy was of more importance to us than to any other nation in the world. In the present state of uneasiness which prevailed in Europe every nation was attempting to make itself secure, and not neglecting the resources of art and science for that purpose. Why, then, should England neglect them when she was more dependent upon fortifications than any other nation in the world?

Mr. BRIGHT said, as the hon. member for Sunderland had had precedence of him, he would not press his amendment. He called on the Committee not to look at this question as a vote of £2,000,000, but as one of countless millions. His experience had shown him that every Government estimate was doubled before the work was completed. Hethen drew attention to some pamphlets that had been published in France inimical to this country, and said they were put forward by those who wished to change the dynasty of France, and knew that no way was more certain to accomplish that than by creating distrust, and ultimately war, between England and France. Having quoted various military opinions as to what was necessary to be done for the defence of the country, he referred to the report of the Defence Committee, which he termed the incoherent, illogical, and absurd production of a set of lunatics. He denounced the whole system of our foreign policy, and said that if Lord John Russell could be got rid of as Foreign Secretary, and the department done away with, the country would save three-fourths of the expenses entailed upon it by that foreign policy. The hon. gentleman concluded an able speech in the following words:—"I hate this policy—I condemn this expenditure as calculated to be alike detrimental to the people, of whom I am one, and to the Monarch under whom I have the honour to live" (Immense cheering).

Mr. NEWDEGATE supported the resolution.

Sir F. GOLDSMID warned the Government not to venture upon any unnecessary expenditure, and suggested that some of the inland works should be better considered before being carried out.

Lord R. MONTAGU cautioned the House against the opinions of Mr. Bright, which, he said, were calculated, if followed, to lead them into a fool's paradise.

Mr. WHITE thought that even an attempted invasion by France would not be an unmitigated evil, believing that it would have the effect of knitting the whole population together as one man for the defence of the country.

Sir C. NAPIER referred to the improved state of the French fleet, and expressed the pleasure he felt at seeing the country at length awakened to a

sense of its danger. The only effective mode of defending the nation was by means of the Navy.

After some remarks from Mr. Currie, Mr. B. OSBORNE contended that the army of France had been reduced since the Italian campaign, and the navy had been fixed in 1855, and denied that there was anything in the conduct of France that would justify the speech of Lord Palmerston the other night.

Sir F. SMITH urged the Government to abandon that portion of their plan which proposed to erect five forts on Portsea Island. He strongly recommended an efficient army to be kept up, which, with the volunteer rifles, he believed would be amply sufficient to repel any invading force.

Lord PALMERSTON replied to various remarks made in the course of the debate, and said that Mr. Bright had taken pains to debate upon schemes which the Government had not adopted rather than upon that which they recommended the House to carry out. The plan of the Government was not to fortify the whole of the English coast, nor to surround London with fortifications, but what they did propose to do was to protect certain points of great importance, which were admitted by all the speakers to be of the utmost consequence as a first line of defence. The Commission was formed twelve months ago, long before the commercial treaty was thought of, and, therefore, they were two totally distinct objects, and that before the House was decided upon after grave deliberation. He hoped they would remain at peace with France, and he believed the best way to maintain that peace was to be in a position to defend themselves from any attack that might be made upon them. In conclusion, he called upon the Committee to assent to the vote asked for.

Sir M. PIERCE did not think that they had sufficient information before them to justify them in assenting to the proposition.

The Committee then divided. The numbers were:—

For the resolution	268
Against	39

Majority in favour of the Government

The resolution was then agreed to.

ATTACK ON THE PEOPLE BY NEAPOLITAN SOLDIERS.

On Sunday, July 15, there was an unquiet feeling amongst the people of Naples that foreboded the occurrence of some event not distinctly understood. It takes little to excite a populace who have been suddenly awakened from long years of persecution, under an organised police having the power of life, death, and the long, lingering agony of Neapolitan dungeons. Then, again, there had been, since they had received a Constitution, a respite from the authorities, and people had begun to breathe more freely as they heard of Palermo and Garibaldi. But some quarrels had taken place the week before between the lazzaroni and some of the military, and orders had been given to the Commander-in-Chief to prevent a "descent of the soldiers;" and so, on Sunday, everybody had heard that some danger threatened. No precautions were taken, however; and, though at about four o'clock p.m. the drum summoned the libertines to leave their quarters, it was not regarded as an altogether premeditated occurrence. Meantime it was reported that the reactionists, General Nunziante, Girolamo Tortona, and Gaetano Azzarella, had fomented the movement which ensued, by driving round to the several military quarters, and inciting the soldiery. Soon the troops, but in an undisciplined mob, were seen issuing from the Mercato, the Porta Capuana, and other places, brandishing their swords and making for the centre of the city, insulting the people as they went, compelling them to cry "Viva il Rè!" at the point of the sabre, or striking at them right and left as they passed along, and wounding every one within their reach.

In the street of Toledo, where a large crowd soon assembled, there was some little fighting, and the dragoons came down upon the pedestrians and wounded several of them severely. Two French bakers' shops in the Toledo were entered by the soldiers, and much damaged, as was also the café of the Colonna d'Oro. The Café d'Europa was a special point of attack, since it is the place of meeting for the liberals, but its inmates had already taken their departure. This café is very near the Royal Palace.

Neither age, sex, nor rank seemed any protection against these ruffians, and they even went so far as to beat and cut at the carriages in which some ladies were seated, the horses having fallen. Even their own officers had no control, and, although they endeavoured to bring them into subordination, their commands were received with contempt. It is even said that, on a Captain of the Staff ordering one of his men to sheathe his sword, the fellow replied by insisting on his officer crying "Viva il Rè!" Mr. Bonham, the British Consul, was set upon as he was passing through the Largo Castello; his hat was knocked off and a sword pointed at his face to compel him to shout; his stick, which was wrested from his hands, was afterwards returned to him by an officer, who told the men that the gentleman was a foreigner. Some members of the Prussian Legation, too, were surrounded. It was generally believed that the whole affair was a reactionary movement, and was expected to produce a very different result from that which was really effected by it; since the Government is taking active measures to punish and suppress it. While the people, although they occasionally shouted "Viva il Rè!" to escape the sabre cuts which would have repaid their silence, resented the attack without joining in the movement, and, in some instances, attempted to overcome the troops, some of the ruffians took a strange way of exhibiting their loyalty by forcing their way into the shops where the portraits of Garibaldi or the King of Sardinia were to be found, and immediately cutting the obnoxious pictures to pieces with their swords, at the same time threatening the lives of the shopkeepers—a scene which our Artist has chosen for his Illustration. That night no fewer than twenty-three wounded persons were taken to the hospital of the Pelligrini; one man was dead, and others wounded were found the next morning. It is also feared that many among the better classes were ill-treated in their own houses.

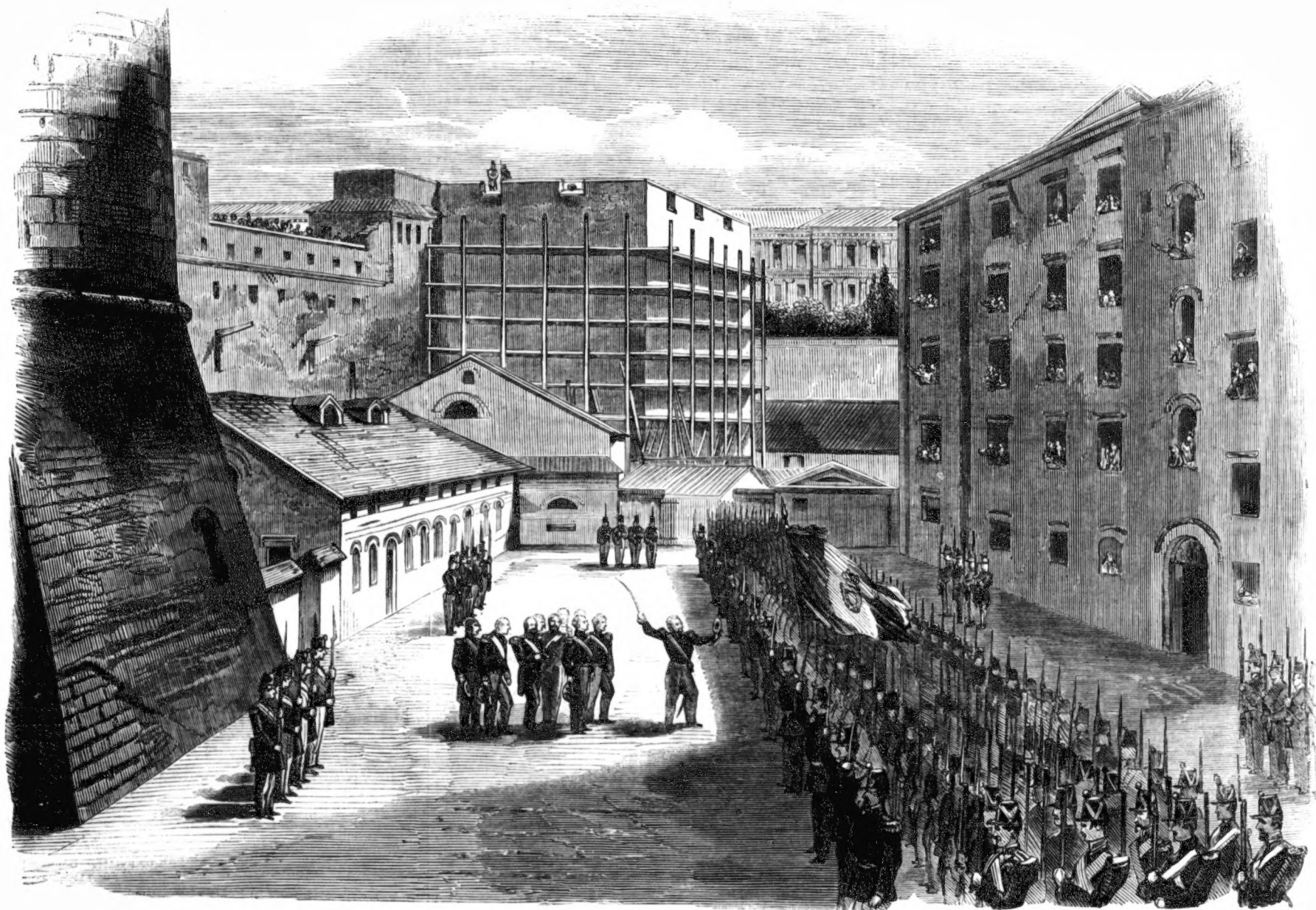
Very strong representations were made to the King the same evening, and Signor Romano, the Minister of the Interior and of Police, declared that it would be impossible for him to retain office unless his Majesty acceded to such conditions as he and his colleagues thought necessary. A council had been called by the Ministers, who intended to resign; but a message from the Count of Aquila in the morning delayed this step, as they were assured that the King would leave himself in their hands, and do whatever they demanded. They seemed determined that the King should rid himself of the whole Camarilla, and order a strict inquiry into the brutality of the soldiery. It was also demanded that the National Guard should be doubled. These conditions were accepted; and it is expected that the outbreak will be traced to Nunziante and some others like him, who would rather sacrifice the country than their own interests.

On the 16th (Monday) all the shops were shut, while the terrified tradespeople were repairing the damages as best they might, and the people were in the streets to see what should happen next. At eleven o'clock the King went to the barracks of the Pizzofalcone and the Castello Nuovo; here he caused the soldiers to take the oath to obey the Constitution, at the same time reproving them for producing disorder and confusion, instead of benefiting him or the country.

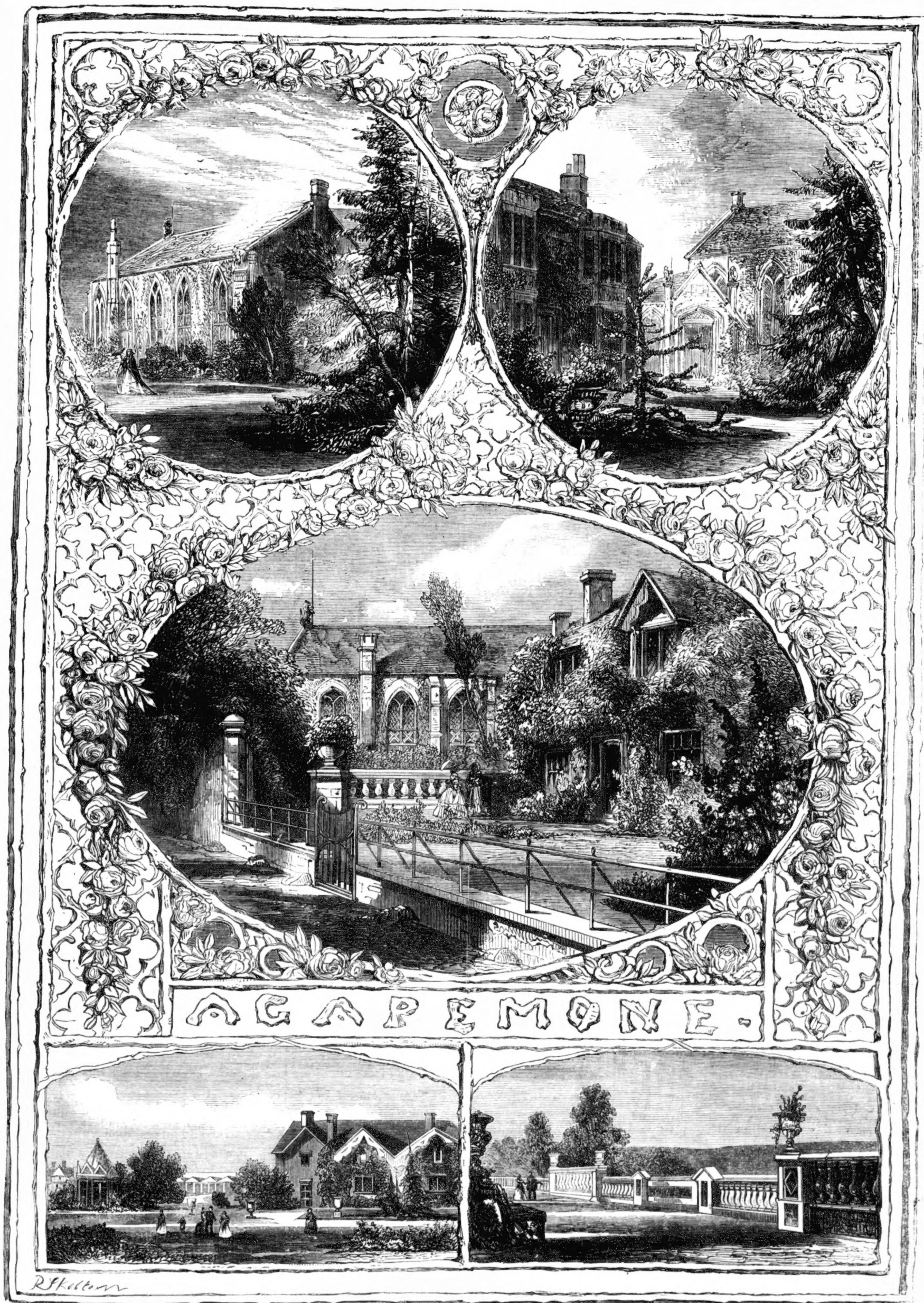
The journal of the same evening published a Royal proclamation containing the following passage:—"The joy of our Royal mind is yet further increased by the reflection that, called as we have been by the inscrutable decrees of Providence to rule over the Two Sicilies at so early an age, we find ourselves so soon initiated in that representative system which now forms the public law of so many civilised States. Thus, entering on the difficult art of government, this will be rendered easier by the light of a wise and truly national press, and by the assistance of all men of high political and civil intelligence who will occupy a place in the Legislative Chambers," &c. This is followed by a proclamation to the army, in which allusion is made to the events of the previous Sunday in these terms:—"No one better than your Sovereign can render the praise which is due to your merits, and which the deplorable errors of a few misguided men, led away by ignorance, or by foolish or malignant indiscretions, cannot obliterate. Soldiers! new fortunes call upon us to raise up the dignity of our Italian land; be proud of this mission! The people who have twice given life to the civilisation of Europe will not fail in the difficult task of reconquering with its independence that high primacy which its geographical position, the power of its arms, and history accord to it. Of this people you are a great portion, and you must sustain its glory and its grandeur."



NEAPOLITAN SOLDIERS ATTACKING THE PEOPLE IN THE TOLEIO.—(FROM A SKETCH BY T. NAST.)



THE KING OF NAPLES ADDRESSING THE TROOPS AT THE CASTELLO NUOVO.—(FROM A SKETCH BY T. NAST.)



THE VESTIBULE.
GENERAL VIEW OF THE GARDENS.

NORTH-WEST VIEW OF PART OF THE BUILDINGS AND GARDENS.
THE TERRACE.

VIEWS OF THE AGAPEMONE.—(FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY MR. C. HINXMAN.)

THE AGAPEMONE.

THE Agapemone, or Abode of Love, is situated at the village of Spaxton, about four miles from the town of Bridgwater, and within about a quarter of an hour's walk of the village of Charlinsch, at the parish church of which place Mr. Prince was formerly Curate. Long before you approach the blissful edifice may be seen a flag with these words inscribed on it, "The Tabernacle of God is with Men." Turning to the left from the almost straight road from Bridgwater which leads to the Agapemone, you come first upon the village forge, and then the first and almost only glimpse of the Abode of Love from the road outside is obtained, as seen in the first Illustration. The carefully-kept cottages in this picture appear to be the domiciles of the laundry-maids and other domestics belonging to the establishment of the Princeites. The gate is of iron, small, tasty, and unique; above, a little to the right, is seen a balustrade and two windows of the vestibule. Beyond the gate is a lofty wall, which entirely hides the front view of the building. A little further on there is another entrance, which is, however, generally kept locked. Then comes one more gate of wood, with some ornamental carving; and, finally, the carriage entrance, which is supported on each side by two massive stone pillars. Here the visible portion of the Agapemone from the outside terminates. The Lamb Inn, which has gained some degree of notoriety from being the place in which Mr. Prince took refuge while endeavouring to devise plans for seizing his wife from the hands of Brother Prince, almost adjoins the building.

The Agapemone is by no means an elegant structure. It is built of a kind of brown stone obtained from neighbouring quarries. On ringing the bell of the Agapemone to inquire if you can be permitted to look over it, a female from one of the cottages will hasten to answer the summons, and, having gained the permission of one of the inmates, a Princeite will conduct you politely, but not without reserve, over the beautiful gardens, conservatories, stables, and vestibule of the happy abode. You cannot but be surprised on first entering at the extreme beauty of the flowers, and the magnificent way in which the gardens are kept. Your guide will probably point you out a few choice plants for which they have given the exorbitant sum of, perhaps, 470 or 480 a piece. He will then take you into the very handsome conservatory seen in the second Illustration, and into others equally pretty and equally well stocked with the choicest of flowers; and, if you are bold enough to make the request, you will be almost sure to be presented with a bouquet which it would be difficult even for Covent Garden to rival. There is one peculiarity in the gardens of the Agapemone, which is, that the flower-beds are below the surface of the earth, instead of being, as they generally are, raised above it.

The terrace (in View No. 5) is exceedingly pretty, and presents one of the most beautifully-picturesque views in Somersetshire. Turning your back upon this scene, and looking towards the Agapemone from the terrace, you obtain the View represented in No. 2, and perchance may catch a glimpse of the old and lofty spire of the parish church of Bridgwater, from the basement of which the rebel Duke of Monmouth took his observations of the Royal Army previous to the battle of Sedgemoor. Leaving the stables on your right, and more cottages and conservatories on your left, you gain the best view of the vestibule, which is represented in No. 3. The exterior part of this building needs no description: suffice it to say that it possesses very much the appearance of a chapel. Passing between the wall and the ecclesiastical-looking door of the room, you see the carriage entrance on your left, and the View represented in No. 4 on looking in a diagonal direction to the right. The shrub seen in the centre is a most beautiful specimen of its kind, and the peep at the Agapemone from this point is, perhaps, one of the most pleasing. A little further towards the left is the stable gate, which is not, however, seen in this picture. The stables are a pattern of neatness, and the horses are such as lead us to believe that Brother Prince is no bad judge of these animals, nor scrupulous as to the price he pays for them. The carriages are by no means unworthy of the horses.

Such is the Agapemone. It possesses beautiful gardens, the best of conservatories, the most enchanting scenery, excellent stables, and handsome apartments, and we can only regret that such a place is the property of a sect governed on a system which it is impossible to censure too strongly.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1860.

It is so seldom we get an Emperor's letter that we may be excused for making as much as possible of the one that has just been published from Napoleon III. to the French Ambassador in London. It is a confidential letter, beginning "My dear Persigny," and including a request that that Minister will ask Lord Palmerston, for the benefit of the English nation, whether or not the Emperor of the French is a man of his word?—so confidential, indeed, that Lord John Russell refused to produce it in the House of Commons, on the ground that it was a private communication; in spite of which it was printed "by desire" the next morning in all the newspapers of the metropolis. It is this twofold character of the Emperor's letter that gives it such a peculiar interest. It contains Napoleon III.'s opinions on some very important subjects, conveyed in the language of intimacy to his bosom friend, but accompanied by a permission to make any use of the document that the latter may think fit. The latter, at once seizing Napoleon's idea, thinks fit to make a double use of it; for he appears first to have shown it to the members of the English Cabinet as a private epistle, so as to increase its value as a genuine heartfelt communication; after which he takes care to give it all possible publicity by sending it to the journals. We have stated our impression, on another page, that, with regard to the present complications in Italy and in the East, the tenour of the Imperial missive is highly satisfactory. But one or two paragraphs in it suggest other considerations, of less immediate importance perhaps, but which we may do well to entertain, now that the contents of the letter are still fresh in the memory of our readers.

In two places, then, the Imperial letter-writer gives us to understand that in sending an expedition to Syria he is but carrying out the national will, and that, even if he were disposed to do so, he could not in this matter resist the desires of his people. The principle here laid down is doubtless to some

extent true, for, as has often been observed, a military despotism resembles far more nearly a republic—of which it has all the worst features—than a monarchy, of which it has few of the best; but it is a principle which Napoleon III. only recognises when it suits him, and which may at any time become a most formidable weapon in his hands. The French people are, it appears, just now calling out for vengeance on the perpetrators of the massacres in the Lebanon. The Emperor has a quick ear, and who knows but that at some time when he is less amicably disposed towards us than he happens to be at present he may hear a cry of hatred against England to which he will find it impossible not to attend? Mr. Hadfield, as soon as Lord John Russell had communicated to the House of Commons the purport of Napoleon's letter, remarked that he supposed there would now be an end to the Fortification question, at which there was, of course, a laugh. But there is, indeed, some danger that this novel manifesto may be seriously accepted in some quarters for more than it is worth, as in others it will certainly be brought forward, for party purposes, as a proof of the excellent disposition of the Emperor towards this country. We cannot, however, in any case consent to remain dependent on the good or bad will of our neighbours, and this happens to be the opinion of the very man—Lord Palmerston—to whom Napoleon III. refers in support of his character for moderation and equity. The referee also differs slightly from the Imperial letter-writer as to the number of troops that can at a fortnight's notice be brought into the field by France, fixing it at 600,000, and not at 400,000. But these are all matters of detail. The great point is for us to have confidence in Napoleon's word; and Lord Palmerston knows that we may put full trust in it, whatever we may think of the coup-d'état, of the peace of Villafranca, and of the annexation of Savoy.

Unfortunately, this is very like the language of the Emperor Nicholas, who, if we had only trusted in his word, would have settled the whole Eastern question for us in the most simple manner. It is impossible not to attach a greater importance to actions than to speeches and letters. Besides which, what can be the value of a vaguely-expressed promise from a Ruler who either confesses or pretends that in certain cases, it is not he that governs his people, but his people that govern him?

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY AND THE PRINCE CONSORT gave their annual dinner and fête on the 27th ult. to the seamen and marines of the Royal yachts, the detachment of infantry stationed at East Cowes, the labourers and workmen employed on the Osborne estate, and the coastguard and Trinity House men. Dinner was prepared for about 550 persons.

THE POWERS of a Viceroy have been conferred on the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness will thus have the same right of conferring the honour of Knighthood as is possessed by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

THE STRIKE among the CHAINMAKERS of the Tyne and Wear has terminated by the masters conceding the demand of the men for an advance of wages of about eight per cent. The men were only "out" three days.

LORD WILLIAM GODOLPHIN OSBORNE has applied for a rehearing of his case. His Lordship put in an affidavit with a view of showing that he had reasonable expectation of being able to discharge the debts which he incurred. The application was refused.

NUMEROUS SUICIDES having lately occurred among the French soldiers, Marshal Magran has issued an order of the day, repeating an opinion of Napoleon I., who compared the soldier who took his own life to a man deserting his post on the day of battle.

THE DAUGHTER of a FARMER near Newton Stewart lately died thorough a bite from an adder concealed in a bird's nest.

THE JAPANESE, before leaving the United States, gave 20,000 dollars for distribution among the police of the different places they had visited.

MR. HAMMILL, Magistrate at the Marylebone Police Court, died on Monday. He attended the court as usual in the morning, but at noon complained of illness and went home, where he died the same evening.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL has appointed Lord Dufferin to the responsible post of British Commissioner to Syria.

FATHER GAVAZZI has arrived at Palermo.

THE RECORDS of the astronomers who went on the expedition to Spain will be collected into a volume under the direction of the Astronomer Royal.

THE PHASE of the LOIRE says that a convention has been signed between France and England for the emigration of six thousand coolies to the Isle of Réunion. The management of the recruiting will be intrusted to a French house at Calcutta.

THE GREAT EASTERN is announced to leave for England on the 16th inst., touching at Halifax on the way. It is anticipated that she will come back a full ship. The directors are said to be quite satisfied with the reception the vessel has met with in America.

THE COLONELCY of the 14th Light Dragoons has become vacant by the death of General the Hon. Sir Henry Murray, K.C.B., which gallant officer died on Sunday last at his residence at Wimbledon. He was one of the few surviving Waterloo officers, and had been sixty years in the Army.

A FALL of SNOW occurred at Scarborough at the end of last week. The railway banks were deeply covered, and in the fields it lay to the depth of some inches.

A MEDAL has been struck at Palermo in honour of Garibaldi.

ACCOUNTS FROM ST. PETERSBURG say that a fearful scourge—"the plague of Siberia"—has broken out in that city.

A PATIENT at ST. PATRICK'S (SWIFT'S) HOSPITAL, Dublin, died on the 17th ult. in the 106th year of his age. He was admitted May 28, 1862, in his 48th year, and was for upwards of fifty-eight years an inmate of the institution.

LOCUSTS are committing such ravages in Jersey that it has been found necessary to take extraordinary measures, and raise the peasants en masse to destroy them. To abate this scourge the Chamber has given the Government discretionary powers and an unlimited credit.

THE SUBSTITUTION of the ARMSTRONG GUNS throughout the brigade of Royal Horse Artillery is now complete.

THE WHOLE of the STEAM-VESSELS of WAR now lying in harbour at the Royal dockyards are to be fitted for the steam reserve ordinary, the Government having decided on every ship belonging to that class being made ready for service, in case a sudden emergency should arise for their immediate use.

A LARGE and FINE PICTURE by SIR W. ALLEN, R.A. and F.R.S.A., representing Nelson boarding the *San Nicolas*, has been presented to the gallery at Greenwich Hospital by Mr. Herbert Blackett, of Orsett-terrace, Gloucester-gardens.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVITIES connected with the celebration of Election Saturday at Eton commenced on Saturday, and were continued throughout the present week.

THE SMOKE of the GUNS at BERLIN announcing the birth of the daughter of the Prince and Princess Frederick William had scarcely cleared away when another salute of thirty-six guns proclaimed to the inhabitants of Berlin that another Princess was born—the Princess Frederick Charles having given birth to a daughter.

CAMBRIDGE is to be honoured by the presence of the young Prince at the commencement of the ensuing Lent term, which begins on the 13th of January next. His Royal Highness will reside at Madingley Hall, the seat of the Cotton family.

AN INTERVIEW between the Emperor of the French and King Victor Emmanuel is spoken of as likely to happen during the Emperor's visit to Nice, during the present month.

JOHN FENTON was executed at Nottingham on Wednesday for the murder of Charles Spencer.

A CROWDED and ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC MEETING was held in Spadfields Chapel on Wednesday night, for the purpose of celebrating the twenty-sixth anniversary of negro emancipation in the West Indian colonies.

THE VOLUNTEERS of the NORTHERN COUNTIES petitioned her Majesty to review them on her route to Scotland. A reply has been sent by Mr. S. Herbert to Sir John Jeph, who represented them, to the effect that, though her Majesty would be unable to comply with their wishes on the present occasion, she hoped to be able to do so on some future day.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE Conservatives mean to fight on Monday; but, in my humble opinion, they will not succeed, and if they do succeed they will find themselves once more "in the ditch." In the first place, they will not succeed. They have sedulously watched the indecision which prevails in the Liberal party, and they fancy that a considerable number of Liberals will vote against the Government, and that they shall gain an easy victory. But they have forgotten two or three things. First, they have supposed, because great pressure has been put upon some of the Liberals by paper-making constituents, producing indecision and hesitation, that these undecided, hesitating Liberals will, when the trial comes, march into the lobby with the Conservatives; but this is more than doubtful. My own opinion is, that when Lord Palmerston shall have laid the question fairly before his party on Monday, at the meeting which is to take place then at Downing-street, and shown how impossible it will be for him to retain office if defeated, the old esprit de corps will be excited, and the Liberal party will at once decide to support its chief. There has been a notion prevalent that this question of the customs duty is a trifling one, and that a defeat of the Government upon it cannot possibly lead to a crisis, and hence the hesitation amongst the Liberals; but when they come to learn, as they will do, that it is not a small question, but one on the decision of which hangs the fate of the Government, and, perhaps, a dissolution of Parliament, I miss my mark if a very great change do not come suddenly over the party. Again, the Conservatives imagine that, if the Ministry should be beaten, Gladstone alone will retire; but here again they reckon without their host. This treaty with France is a Cabinet business, and upon the question whether it is to be carried out in all its integrity or not the Cabinet will stand or fall. This the Conservatives will learn on Monday, and, perhaps then, a change may also come over the spirit of their dream. If they could turn Gladstone out of the Government they would be delighted; but a break up of the Government, with a probable dissolution of Parliament, I need hardly say is by no means desired by the Conservative party just now. Again, they have not calculated that, if some few Liberals go with them, not a few Conservatives will go against them. Under all these circumstances I should not be surprised if the fight at the eleventh hour should go off. Gladstone has divided his resolution into two parts—one referring to France and the treaty, the other to the rest of the world. Perhaps here the doubtful Liberals will find a *locus penitentiae*; and it may be that the Conservatives will also see an opening here through which they may escape out of the difficulty in which they are placed. Indeed, it is generally supposed that the Government has adopted this division as an offer to settle the question by what is called splitting the difference. "On the first resolution we must be firm, but on the second vote as you please." If a fight should be decided upon, there will be a large division; but the Government will have a majority, I think, and so think the Government "whips."

The plans for the proposed new Foreign Office, which Mr. Scott has made by order of Lord Palmerston, are now hanging in the tearoom of the House of Commons, side by side with the Gothic elevations prepared last year. The new plans are not in the Palladian style. In a pamphlet which Mr. Scott has published he tells us that he took the design from some buildings in Venice of an earlier date than the Palladian style. It is very beautiful; but, like Mr. Scott, we greatly prefer the Gothic. Still, if the new design be ultimately adopted, the public may rest assured that it will have a very handsome and effective building for its money. It is impossible to describe the design. Those who wish to know what it is must go and see it. I may, however, just say that there are no fluted windows, no pillars supporting nothing, no pilasters stuck in a wall merely for ornament; and, indeed, none of that vulgar violation of taste which is so common in our modern public buildings. In short, if we cannot have the Gothic design of Mr. Scott, it is to be hoped that without more ado we shall have this.

In our contemporary the *Era*—which, as the organ of the theatrical world, is conducted with talent, honesty, impartiality, and spirit which we cannot too highly praise—we find some strong remarks counselling actors and managers to make a resolute stand against the prevalent practices of amateur-acting, so far, at least, as to its being carried on in public theatres, and with the assistance of professional ladies. "The time is come," says our contemporary, "when, if the theatrical profession is to exist as a separate branch of art, this amateur mania must be met on the threshold and the temple saved to its legitimate priesthood by a bold and energetic opposition." After some further observations, the article calls upon actors and managers "to resist this encroaching tide, and not to sap the mercantile honour of their profession by lending their actresses to a cause which is directly suicidal to their own and the interest of the drama, but hermetically seal their doors against a growing infatuation that can only flourish on the ruin of the actor and the annihilation of the stage as a legitimate institution." Now, these are "prave words," written, doubtless, in all honesty and good faith; but I venture to submit that they are not called for and that the real facts of the case are, unintentionally, not set forth. An amateur performance is never held in a regular theatre unless such a theatre be to be let; therefore no persons are deprived of their salaries, no prosperous "run" is interfered with, no expectant public put to inconvenience from the change of performance. Thus no negative inconvenience accrues to the profession, but, as I will show, they receive a positive good. The proprietor of the theatre (in nine cases out of ten an actor) receives the rent for the night; employment is given to the theatrical carpenters, scene-shifters, green-coatmen, property-men, and gasmen; a band of professional musicians is engaged, box-keepers and their assistants are hired, a fee is charged by and paid to the Dramatic Authors' Society for the pieces performed, the services of a prompter (always) and a stage manager (generally), both professionals, are required and liberally remunerated, and an impetus to theatrical affairs in general is given for the time being amongst those circles to which the amateurs belong. As to the ladies, they are usually actresses who are at the moment out of an engagement. They are, so far as my experience goes, treated with the most perfect courtesy, and, though their honorarium is ample, are made to feel that they have conferred a great favour in granting their co-operation. Such performances are usually undertaken by gentlemen who from their literary vocations are connected with the drama (as in the case of the Guild of Literature and Art), or have a warm interest in theatrical matters, and who are to be found to the fore on all occasions of benefits or theatrical charities. Of the good taste of such performances I do not speak; whether the public gratification of their little vanities is commendable or not is a matter which may be left to the amateurs themselves; but I feel convinced that our good friend the *Era* has made a mistake in the line which it has taken. I feel convinced that these amateur performances tend strongly to strengthen the good feeling which should exist between actors and those on whose support they to a certain extent depend; and I fear that, were the conduct recommended to be adopted, the result would be decidedly inimical to the wellbeing of the drama and its professors.

English literature repays to her Scottish sister a loan with interest. Mr. James Hannay, a Scotchman by birth, after serving in the Navy, came to the English metropolis and commenced the battle of life as a literary man. After several years of hard work—during which he has step by step fought his way to a high position on the rounds of the ladder, having achieved fame as an essayist and novelist, being known as one of the first genealogical and Horatian scholars of the day, and having greatly distinguished himself as a quarterly reviewer—he leaves us to undertake the editorial supervision of the *Edinburgh Courant*, a newspaper in the Conservative interest, which stands very high in the journalism of Scotland. Readers of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES who, from the first starting of this Journal, have, unknowingly, been the recipients of Mr. Hannay's accumulated research and natural talents, will join with us in wishing him every success in his new and important position. Before his departure Mr. Hannay is to be entertained at dinner by his literary friends, under the presidency of Mr. Thackeray.

In a communication to a daily contemporary, Mr. J. C. Brough positively contradicts the advertised assertion that his late brother Robert's novel of "Marston Lynch" is a "personal biography," and comments severely on the questionable taste which has caused the story to be abruptly finished by another hand.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER. THE MAGAZINES.

THERE is a class of writers who, by their own showing, are to be envied. I do not mean the proud unprofessional, whose principal efforts, evidenced in their hebdomadal review, go to convince us that they simply write for the sake of benefiting the world, and not with any view to filthy lucre, thereby snubbing into silence the objects of their direct scorn—the "literary men" who strive to make a market of their talents, or what stands them in as good stead, their popularity; rather do I allude to the easygoing tribe of book-reviewers and critics whose critical essays are to be found in our magazines, and who evidently have so much time on their hands that they are enabled to gossip playfully of the seasons and the weather, of Shakespeare and the musical glasses, and any other popular topic, and thus to lead themselves and their readers on to the actual hard work of their paper. They take what books they like, and they take their own time to notice them, and they are hard, these satirical dogs, often hard, upon us poor scribes to whom the sun never rises without its apportioned task to be performed, and upon whom the sun should never set without the apportioned number of pages having been covered. I was reading an article of this description the other day—a good-humoured, sensible article enough in other respects—in which the writer was especially severe and humorous upon those writers who use easy generalities in their criticisms on books—who say that such a work is "excellent," and such a work "admirable," &c.; and I am bound to confess that, as far as these monthly notices of the magazines are concerned, I placed the cap on my own head, and found it fitted admirably. I allow the accusation—I bow to the reproach; but, I confess, I can do no more. When you receive a book of any worth or interest, you apply yourself to its perusal and its criticism with all your power. To the biography, travels, &c., you bring such scholarship as you possess; to the novel you apply your knowledge of life and the world, and your experience in former novel-reading. But when, a few days before the close of every month, you find on your study-table a pile of those magazines which you have been in the habit of seeing and noticing for the last half dozen years, with the peculiarities of whose writers, whose politics, and whose style of articles you are thoroughly acquainted, what can you do more than bestow set phrases of praise and blame in such instance as you conscientiously feel they are due, and give a *catalogue raisonné* of their contents? Words used a thousand times before by the same critic to the same magazine will perchance reappear a thousand times,—honest, simple English adjectives which convey his meaning, but the use of which cannot even hint at his erudition (which he may or may not possess), and but one resource is left for those readers of his journal who have grown too proud to follow his judgment—viz., to pass by his criticism without reading it. So to begin.

Blackwood opens with an article on the national defences and the volunteers, in which the propositions embodied in the report of the Commissioners who have been recently inquiring into the subject are discussed at length. One grand omission appears, in the writer's mind, to be that the defence of London itself has not been studied, and that it does not seem to have been considered that an occasion may arise when the invaded army shall have to act on the offensive as well as the defensive. The article is written plainly and practically, and has the advantage of being easily comprehended by non-professional readers. The suggestion as to the placing in the line of battle such volunteers only as are thoroughly acquainted with battalion drill will not be so difficult as the writer seems to suppose; there are very few volunteer regiments which are not thoroughly and constantly exercised in battalion drill under commanders conversant with brigade movements. The article "Lord Macaulay and Dundee" is an elaborate defence of Graham of Claverhouse and his party against the exaggerated stories of the cruelties wrought by them upon the Covenanters. It is set forth that Sir Walter Scott did Claverhouse injustice in "Old Mortality" and other works; but this was unintentional, and arose from the fact that our knowledge of these times was much less in Sir Walter's day than it now is. Parallel passages are given, from which it is evident that many of Lord Macaulay's statements received a highly dramatic colouring. It contains, also, a graphic description of the pursuit of that arch scoundrel and hero of the mutinies, Tania Topce; a personal account, from an eyewitness, of the great earthquake at Lisbon; and some good verses—"D mine, quo radis?"—by Mr. Horsley, the best I have seen of his, founded on a story related in Mrs. Jameson's "Legendary Art." The political paper of the month is on the "Transition State of our Indian Empire."

Fraser opens with one of those charming gossiping essays teeming with reflective wisdom and a sense of Nature's beauties, in which A.K.I.B. has nowadays no rival. His present theme is "Summer days;" and so vivid is his colouring, so admirable his word-photography, that one is almost tempted to believe that that "Country Parsonage" whose delightful retreat he has so often described must have enjoyed an immunity from those bleak rainy days which have hitherto constituted our summer. He does not know how he taunts us, "in city pent," with his comparisons between his garden-loiterings and turf-lyings and our weary, dreary, flagstone grind! But he does not confine himself to mere descriptions of scenery; he moralises on many things, notably on extempore preaching, and clerical plagiarism, and on self-complacency, and all in the shrewdest yet the kindest spirit. With the single exception, perhaps, of Mr. Dickens, there is no author a perusal of whose works makes you so much wish to know their writer personally in the flesh as this country parson. An article on the "Ireland Forgeries" does not contain much novelty; and Mr. Mayo's paper on the "Relations of the Public to the Science and Practice of Medicine," notwithstanding its title, is purely professional in its interest. "Gryll Grange," by Mr. Peacock, still proceeds with its *dilettanti* criticism and its somewhat old-fashioned picture of manners. There is a good essay on "Novels of the Day," in which the ridiculous style of modern dialogue, so utterly unnatural in every phrase, is justly condemned; another on "Religious Essays and Reviews;" a continuation of the tale, "Wheat and Tares;" a pretty poem, "A Lament;" and the new feature, "The Chronicle of Great History."

The Cornhill Magazine opens with "Eramley Parsonage" in the place of honour. The chapter on "Hagglestock Parsonage," and the domestic life of the struggling parson and his family, is written with much feeling; the other two, recording the struggles of the worldly Nubblehouses and Sowerbys, are doubtless clever, but totally lacking in interest. "Unto this Last" (part of the text in St. Matthew—"I will give unto this last even as unto thee") is a politico-economical essay, said to be by Mr. Ruskin, written, of course, in strong, nervous language and in the most earnest manner. The matter of this essay must be judged by those more capable of understanding it; it is for me but to speak of its style. George II. and his reign are treated of in this month's instalment of "The Four Georges," and an admirable picture is given of the Court; the scene of the Queen's death-bed is especially striking. "How I Quitted Naples" is a rambling, ill-told, uninteresting story of the adventures of a republican officer in Calabria in the year 1818; and a paper called "Stranger than Fiction" is a narration of spirit-rapping manifestations, the writer of which (whose character for truthfulness is guaranteed by the editor) tells us of a table "which seemed to be inspired with the most riotous animal spirits;" which lay down on its side, glided slowly towards another table which stood close to a large ottoman in the centre of the room, and then performed the following feat. "Using the leg of the large table as a fulcrum, it directed its claws towards the ottoman, which it attempted to ascend by inserting one claw in its side, then turning halfway round to make good another step, and so on. It

slipped down at the first attempt, but again quietly resumed its task." Further do we hear of boys' hands twitching people's heels; of accordions played without hands, and emitting such wonderful sounds as were never heard before; of Mr. Home, the great archangel of the spiritualists, floating suspended in mid-air. "We watched in profound silence and saw his figure pass from one side of the window to the other, feet foremost, lying horizontally in the air." The hundred thousand readers of the Cornhill, of whom we hear so much, are to be congratulated on the accession of this new provider of their mental pabulum! The essays on Hogarth and his Times proceed with the usual spirit, and the reading world has again an opportunity of learning that the accomplished writer has visited St. Petersburg. There is also a capital essay on "Holidays," written in a thoroughly genial spirit; and a Roundabout Paper "On Screens in Dining-rooms," in which the editor administers dignified castigation to the correspondent of an American paper.

Macmillan's improves each month. "Tom Brown at College" proceeds with vigour. The two chapters this month are devoted to the examination in the school and to the glories of Commemoration, and we may be soon expecting a wind-up. There is a laudatory review of the fifth and sixth volumes of Mr. Froude's "History," by Professor Maurice; a Household Words-ish essay on "The Artisan's Saturday Night;" a very good and true criticism on the events and probable results of "The First Rifle Meeting at Wimbledon;" a very curious paper on "Uninspired Prophecy," with some striking examples; and a rather unsatisfactory notice of Thomas Hood. There are three verse-pieces in the number, the best of them being a spirited address from "The Youth of England to Garibaldi's Legion," by Mr. Sydney Dobell, which contains many lines of real poetic beauty.

The Dublin University has made a great stride in advance this month. There are capital serious papers on "Our Political Chorus" and "The Paris Agricultural Show," and a very amusing one called "A French Opera-glass." A little poem, "The Waters of Babylon," is also decidedly above the average; but the writer should be reminded that his lines—

The fiery heat
No longer makes the landscape wink—

is an obvious plagiarism from "the landscape winking in the heat" in "In Memoriam."

The Englishwoman's Journal pursues its useful career. There is an unavoidable sameness about its articles, but the spirit everywhere displayed is so good that we need not be too particular about the execution. The report of the meeting of the Society for the Employment of Women, given this month, is very interesting.

THE LIVERPOOL POISONING CASE.

The evidence against Thomas Winslow, who is charged with having poisoned Mrs. James at Liverpool, and several of her relations, having been at length prepared, he was brought before the stipendiary magistrate on Monday.

Mrs. Caffarella deposed that Winslow had been employed to assist her aunt, a lodging-housekeeper, in managing the business. Mrs. James, who was subject to bilious attacks, became very ill in February last. She recovered, and again fell ill in March; she vomited very much. Witness waited on her, as also did the prisoner. On the morning of the 10th of June witness, who had slept in deceased's room, found a cup or two on the table which had not been there when she fell asleep. The prisoner had access to the room in the interval. Dr. Cameron, deceased's medical attendant, took possession of these cups, and ordered Mrs. James's removal to the hospital. She died on Sunday, the 24th of June, and witness last saw her alive on Wednesday, the 20th. On the latter day and on the Thursday prisoner and witness had a quarrel. She said, "You are taking things too easy; you are a second Palmer!"

In cross-examination by Mr. Cobb, the witness said her husband never put any carbonate of soda in her aunt's food. He never interfered with the food of her aunt. She (witness) never put carbonate of soda in her aunt's food. She never said she could get anything she liked from a druggist whom her husband knew, and that without paying for it.

The husband of this witness said that, some days before Mrs. James's death, prisoner called witness a poisoner, and said his (witness's) wife was as bad as himself; that witness went about with white powder in his pocket, poisoning the family. The white powder was a little carbonate of soda, which, being troubled with indigestion, he was in the habit of taking.

Dr. Cameron, honorary physician to the Southern Hospital, said he attended Mrs. James at the prisoner's instance. She was suffering from ulceration of the bowels; but from the symptoms of her illness he suspected she was being poisoned. It was for that reason he had had the deceased removed to the hospital, and the cups seized. After her death he had examined her body, as he had previously examined her vomit and stools. They contained antimony. His opinion was that Mrs. James's death, though it must have followed from the ulcerated condition of her bowels, had been accelerated by the administration of antimony.

Professor Taylor, of Guy's Hospital, deposed to the discovery of antimony in the viscera of the deceased, and believed death to have been caused by its administration in presence of a deceased cum, which was ruptured in vomiting.

Inspector Horn deposed to taking away from Mrs. James's on the day she was carried to the hospital a cup containing a quantity of cooled sago. Mrs. James having previously partaken of a portion of the sago. When taking the prisoner into custody Mr. Horn told him that this cooled sago had been analysed, and that antimony had been found in it. The prisoner replied, "I made the sago, which I took to her at five o'clock that morning, but I put no antimony into it. In know the use of antimony; I have given it to cattle, but I have not used it for the last eighteen years."

Winslow was committed for trial. There are several other cases against him, but they will not be taken at present.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—A return just issued shows the cost of every picture in the National Gallery, the date of purchase, the former proprietor, &c. The total sum which has been spent upon the purchase of pictures is £184,505. The Paul Veronese added to the gallery at an expense of £13,650 is the nation's most valuable possession, if the length of the bill for it be taken as a criterion, and no other single painting in the gallery has cost anything like this sum. The nucleus of the national collection was purchased in 1824 from Mr. J. C. Angerstein for the sum of £57,000. This collection consisted of thirty-eight pictures, amongst which was Hogarth's series of the "Marriage à la Mode," Raphael's "Julius II.," some of Claude's most beautiful landscapes, Titian's "Rape of Ganymede" and the "Venus and Adonis," and many other renowned paintings. By 1843 nineteen more pictures had been added to those mentioned above, amongst them being Raphael's "El Catherino," Titian's "Bacchus and Ariadne," for which £2000 was paid; Correggio's "Mercury teaching Cupid to read," and the "Ecce Homo," which were purchased together from the Marquis of Londonderry for £11,500. On the 21st of November, 1843, Sir Charles Eastlake was appointed Keeper of the Gallery. The "Judgment of Paris" was bought under his auspices in July, 1844, for £2200 from Mr. Penrice; Raphael's "Vision of a Knight," in 1847, for £1050; "The Adoration of the Shepherds," by Velasquez, for £2050, and many others. The Kriger collection was purchased in 1854 for £2800, some being afterwards resold. The first of those extraordinary pictures, the "Virgin and Child," by Botticelli, was bought in 1855 for £331. In November, 1847, a collection of thirty-one pictures was purchased from the Lombardi Baldi Gallery, Florence, for a sum of £7035. During the January of the present year the Beauclous collection of forty-six pictures was purchased in Paris for £2905. Amongst them are two paintings by Titian, the "Madonna and Child, St. John, and St. Catherine," and the "Portrait of Ariosto," besides other works of undoubted merit and value. A list of the bequests and gifts to the nation is added to the return, which forms a complete history of our national collection.

THE CHINA EXPEDITION.—The Army and Navy Gazette says:—"All the accounts we receive from China concur in representing everything as going on as well as possible as regards the British expedition. The whole of the troops had arrived with the exception of the siege-train, and there was at hand a small siege-train sufficient to commence with until its arrival. The Army was in wonderfully good health, excellent spirits, and, from the Generals downwards, full of mutual confidence. The expedition was about to start for the north, but at the date of our advices there appeared to be considerable doubt as to the French being ready in time. Indeed, the accounts we hear (on excellent authority) of the state of our allies are not calculated to sustain their boasted superiority in organisation. They had no horses for their guns, next to no commissariat, and very few carriage animals for stores, &c. We understand that an offer made by Sir Hope Grant of a number of ponies was at first accepted by General Montauban, but afterwards rejected on the score of their expense, which was no more than that at which they had been supplied to the British Army."

THE POLICY OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

The following important letter from the Emperor Napoleon to the Ambassador of France, to which Lord John Russell referred on Tuesday in the House of Commons:—

"St. Cloud, 25th of July, 1860.

"My dear Persigny,—Affairs appear to me to be so complicated—thanks to the mistrust excited everywhere since the war in Italy—that I write to you in the hope that a conversation, in perfect frankness, with Lord Palmerston will remedy the existing evil. Lord Palmerston knows me, and when I affirm a thing he will believe me. Well, you can tell him from me, in the most explicit manner, that since the peace of Villafranca I have had but one thought, one object—to inaugurate a new era of peace, and to live on the best terms with all my neighbours, and especially with England. I had renounced Savoy and Nice; the extraordinary additions to Piedmont alone caused me to resume the desire to see reunited to France provinces essentially French. But it will be objected 'You wish for peace, and you increase, immoderately, the military forces of France.' I deny the fact in every sense. My army and my fleet have in them nothing of a threatening character. My steam navy is even far from being adequate to our requirements, and the number of steamers does not nearly equal that of sailing-ships deemed necessary in the time of King Louis Philippe. I have 400,000 men under arms; but deduct from this amount 60,000 in Algeria, 6000 at Rome, 8000 in China, 20,000 gendarmes, the sick, and the new conscripts, and you will see—what is the truth—that my regiments are of smaller effective strength than during the preceding reign. The only addition to the Army List has been made by the creation of the Imperial Guard. Moreover, while wishing for peace, I desire also to organise the forces of the country on the best possible footing; for, if foreigners have only seen the bright side of the last war, I myself, close at hand, have witnessed the defects, and I wish to remedy them. Having said thus much, I have, since Villafranca, neither done, nor even thought, anything which could alarm any one. When Lavalette started for Constantinople, the instructions which I gave him were confined to this—'Use every effort to maintain the status quo. The interest of France is that Turkey should live as long as possible.'

"Now, then, occur the massacres in Syria, and it is asserted that I am very glad to find a new occasion of making a little war, or of playing a new part. Really, people give me credit for very little common sense. If I instantly proposed an expedition, it was because my feelings were those of the people which has put me at its head, and the intelligence from Syria transported me with indignation. My first thought, nevertheless, was to come to an understanding with England. What other interest than that of humanity could induce me to send troops into that country? Could it be that the possession of it would increase my strength? Can I conceal from myself that Algeria, notwithstanding its future advantages, is a source of weakness to France, which for thirty years has devoted to it the purest of its blood and its gold? I said it in 1852 at Bordeaux, and my opinion is still the same: I have great conquests to make, but only in France. Her interior organisation, her moral development, the increase of her resources, have still immense progress to make. There a field exists vast enough for my ambition, and sufficient to satisfy it.

"It was difficult for me to come to an understanding with England on the subject of Central Italy, because I was bound by the peace of Villafranca. As to Southern Italy, I am free from engagement, and I ask no better than a concert with England on this point, as on others; but, in Heaven's name, let the eminent men who are placed at the head of the English Government lay aside petty jealousies and unjust mistrusts.

"Let us understand one another in good faith, like honest men as we are, and not like thieves who desire to cheat each other.

"To sum up, this is my innermost thought. I desire that Italy should obtain peace, no matter how, but without foreign intervention, and that my troops should be able to quit Rome without compromising the security of the Pope. I could very much wish not to be obliged to undertake the Sicilian expedition, and, in any case, not to undertake it alone—firstly, because it will be a great expense; and secondly, because I fear that this intervention may involve the Eastern question; but, on the other hand, I do not see how to resist public opinion in my country, which will never understand that we can leave unpunished not only the massacre of Christians but the burning of our Consulates, the insult to flag, and the pillage of the monasteries which were under our protection.

"I have told you all I think, without disguising or omitting anything. Make what use you may think advisable of my letter.

"Believe in my sincere friendship,

"NAPOLEON."

MATRIMONIAL STATISTICS.—The diagrams prepared by the Registrar and his assistants for the year 1859 disclose, as usual, some curious facts. For instance, it appears that, in the year 1858, three girls of 15 were married to youths of 18; one of 16 was married to a boy of 17; a young woman of 19 was wedded to a lad of 16; twelve girls of the age of 15 were married to men of 21; in all, twenty-six of the wives were only 15 years of age; 194 were 16 years; 1016 were 17. The age at which the greatest number of women marry is 20. A greater number marry at 30 than at 19; indeed, more marry at 30 than at 25 or 21 or 18. Five venerable old dames of 75, all of them widows, found husbands, one catching an active bachelor of 55. A girl of 17 was "sacrificed" to a man of 62; and another young creature of 20 to an fellow man of 75. Three men at the age of 80 were married to women of 50. A spinster of 70 was wedded to a bachelor of 65; but the large majority of the women who marry at that period of life of course are widows.

GERMAN UNIVERSITY DEGREES.—Dr. Meissner, of Clifton, in a letter to the Times, throws some light on the relative value of German university degrees, and exposes the efforts of English quacks to obtain them by purchase. The authorities at Heidelberg are, it appears, pestered with letters of inquiry offering £5 or £10 for degrees:—"A three years' academical study, with attendance at lectures, and the viva voce examination, are indispensable as well at Heidelberg as at any other respectable university all over the world. The fees and expenses are likewise considerably more than this kind of gentry fancy. Those who have seen student life at Heidelberg will know that at the same cost a man may comfortably go through his course at Cambridge, and with less at London, since Heidelberg is chiefly frequented by the higher and wealthy classes. The insults offered in these letters of inquiry to a faculty of which the hoary, venerable Schlosser, Bunsen (the chemist), Gervinus, and Hauser are Professors Ordinarii, transcend all belief. An 'M.C.S., B.M.B.,' offers £5 for an M.D. or Ph.D., no matter which, and hopes that the degree will be given to him as an Englishman on payment of this certainly considerable bribe, and on sending his certificates (which the Dean surmises would be forgeries). A clergyman from the west of England sends 'Sermons published by request,' and a dissertation, 'De Peccato Originali,' and on being told that neither are wanted, but academical study and *examen rigorosum*, begins whining about his narrow circumstances and large family, which render both to him impossible. A pupil-teacher in a national school is so generous as to offer 'from £8 to £10,' which (to quote his own words) is certainly sufficient for the mere use of a title, which, as he knows, are sold as an honour to Englishmen. Are Berlin, Bonn, and Heidelberg (for there, I was assured, the tribulation was quite as great) to be daily insulted by English quacks, because Giessen, Jena, and Erlangen, on payment of £10, and on sending some kind of dissertation, have made half the London schoolmasters Doctors?"

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—The services in this church attracted some attention on Sunday, as being the first since Mr. Bryan King's departure. Mr. Hunsard, the new Curate, officiated at all the three services. According to an agreement made between Mr. Hunsard and Mr. King, the chorists, as before, chanted the psalms and canticles, but the prayers were read. The ardour of the responses was somewhat abated by this change, but they were still sufficiently loud to give an unusual air of excitement to the service. At the beginning of the sermon there was a slight explosion, occasioned by persons leaving the church and violently slamming the doors. This appeared to be caused by the preacher wearing the surplice, which, as he ascended the pulpit straight from the communion-table, he had, in conformity with the existing usages of the Church, still retained. Apparently even this temporary retention of the "white gown," as it was termed in the remarks of the people, provoked considerable dissatisfaction. At the evening service the congregation was immense; but there were no interruptions except an occasional burst of cheering.

In some of our early Impressions last week the name of Herbert, instead of John, Watkins was given as the photographer who furnished the Portrait of the Prince of Wales.



STREET IN MOCHA, ARABIA.

MOCHA.

THE accompanying Engraving is from a recent Sketch, and gives a fair idea of the street of one of those Eastern cities, which would seem to belong only to the past history of the world, were it not that their products are still demanded as the accessories of modern civilisation. Mocha, or more properly Mokha, is a fortified city of Arabia, in the province of Yemen, and the principal port of the Red Sea. Although many of the houses are little better than miserable huts, there still remain in the streets of Mocha many handsome stone buildings, the most remarkable of which are the mosques, while the environs are studded here and there with gardens containing the choicest beauties of Eastern flowers, fruit, and foliage. These, with the date-trees, which grow in graceful luxuriance all round the city, make a country beyond one of the most charming territories through which an Eastern traveller can pass. The shrub for which the place is famous, however, is cultivated, not at Mocha itself, but chiefly on the western descent of a chain of hills which, in the province of Yemen, separates the level country from the high land. At Bulgoza, near Beit-el-Fakih, is grown the coffee which, exported from Mocha, still maintains its superiority over that from any other part of the globe. Not alone to coffee, however, do the people of Mocha owe their trade, since, through the medium of the English and Americans, who engross the whole business of the place, they also export large quantities of gum arabic, myrrh, frankincense, hides, horns, civet, acacia, and senna. The population of Mocha scarcely exceeds 6000.

FASHIONS FOR AUGUST.

AMONG the preparations for the country and the seaside the paletot is indispensable. Our Illustration (Figure 3) shows one of the very newest style. For the warm weather piqué is a favourite material for paletots; but they may also be made of various kinds of light woollen

textures, as cashmere and even merino. A paletot of a more elegant style may be made of black silk, and trimmed with quilling of violet or green ribbon, edged with black lace. But, of whatever material the paletot or par-dessus may be made, it is decidedly the parti obligé of fashionable costume for travelling, or for the seaside promenade.

The chapeau Louis XV., which last year Fashion showed herself so reluctant to adopt, has now not only overcome opposition, but has positively gained favour, and is accepted without scruple. However, it ought always to be borne in mind that, excepting by very young ladies, hats should be worn only in the country, or for travelling, or as a convenient shade for the face during a stroll in the garden. Whenever they are worn in Paris or London, except by mere girls, they are pronounced to be mauvais goût.

The most fashionable bonnets descend rather closely over the forehead, and widen at each side. Many are pointed in front, so as to produce the effect of the Marie Stuart coiffure. Bonnets of leghorn and chip are frequently trimmed with velvet of some light colour, intermingled with tufts of flowers or fruit.

Mantelets and shawls of black lace are extremely fashionable. The Chantilly lace is preferred to all others. A mantelet of black or coloured silk, trimmed with a very deep fall of Chantilly lace, is very elegant.

Chambéry gauze is at present a very favourite material for dresses. We may here describe one recently made in Paris. It has a white ground, with small mauve-coloured sprigs. The skirt has eleven flounces, composed of Chambéry gauze and mauve-coloured silk, disposed alternately. The silk flounces are cut out at the edges, and trimmed with black blonde, and the flounces of Chambéry gauze are trimmed with white blonde. The corsage is pointed at the waist, and has a berthe of Chambéry gauze trimmed with blonde. The short sleeves are composed of three small frills.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1.—Robe of brown chiné, the skirt trimmed with bias bands of

the same, edged with rose-coloured silk. Shawl of black silk with three broad falls of black lace. Bonnet of Belgian straw, with curtain of black tulle edged with pink. The outside trimming is black lace with a single rose on one side. The under-trimming is also black lace and a rose with ruffles of white tulle at each side. Strings of broad pink sarcenet ribbon.

Fig. 2.—Evening Dress.—Robe of clear white muslin, with five worked flounces and a tunic, worked in wreaths running longitudinally. The tunic is edged with a trimming of broad white lace. Corsage à la Raphael, with needlework and bouillonés. The sleeves are demi-long, and made with rows of insertion running lengthwise and alternating with rows of bouilloné. Sash of broad plaided ribbon, tied in a bow at the back of the waist, and having long fringed ends flowing over the skirt of the dress. Neud de coiffure of the same ribbon as that composing the sash, and fixed very low, at the back of the head.

Fig. 3.—Dress and paletot of maize-coloured piqué. The paletot is trimmed with black braid. The buttons are maize-coloured, and edged with narrow black braid. A black straw hat, rather high in the crown, and trimmed with black velvet. On one side a black cock's plume. Collar and under-sleeves of plain cambric muslin. Small necktie of black velvet. Grey kid gloves.

Fig. 4.—Robe of grey taffety. The skirt has one broad flounce, and above it a band of violet-coloured silk, edged at each side with narrow black lace. At intervals on the band are fixed small rosettes of black lace. Above are three narrow flounces, edged with violet silk and narrow black lace, and above these flounces there is a second band of violet silk with black lace rosettes. The corsage is high to the throat, and trimmed with bands of violet corresponding with those on the skirt. The sleeves are composed of frills and bouillons. A broad ceinture of grey silk is fastened on one side, the long ends being finished with violet fringe. Collar and under-sleeves of worked muslin. The hair is confined in a net of violet-coloured silk.



FASHIONS FOR AUGUST.

"THE DEATH OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS."

THIS Engraving is from a picture by M. Robert Fleury, who has succeeded in treating a noble subject with a simplicity which more than anything characterises the true artist.

The wonderful Genoese who had discovered a new world, and given it to his country, is worn out with a life of noble and adventurous toil, for which he had received but little save ingratitude and deferred hope for the realisation of promises never to be fulfilled. One could almost imagine that the old man of nearly seventy who lies there dying with the one glow of light in that darkened chamber shining on his venerable head, is looking in imagination far across the wild Atlantic, and once more dwelling in spirit amidst the waving trees and spice gales of those beautiful islands which marked like glorious visions the progress of the discovery which terminated in a new world.

His mind reverts to some such scene at this as he talks to his son Diego, who, kneeling by his bedside, receives from the old navigator the Breviary given him by Pope Alexander VI. In the flyleaf of this book he has written his last will and testament—"a military will" as it was then called—where, among other legacies, he bequeaths a sum yearly to one whom he had loved far away in one of those gorgeous islands. It is interesting to know that the son Diego paid this annuity for some time, and that, having once neglected it, he sent the sum due for four years, let us hope not too late to repair his omission.

M. Fleury's picture opens to us such a grand page of olden history; the last hours of a man who, after devoting his life to an enterprise which is now affecting the whole human race, lay him down in that humble room at Segovia, in the year 1504, and died full of years, having finished his labour; there is something so touching and yet so grand in the whole scene, that we lose ourselves alternately in the history and in the worthy illustration which the artist has given us.

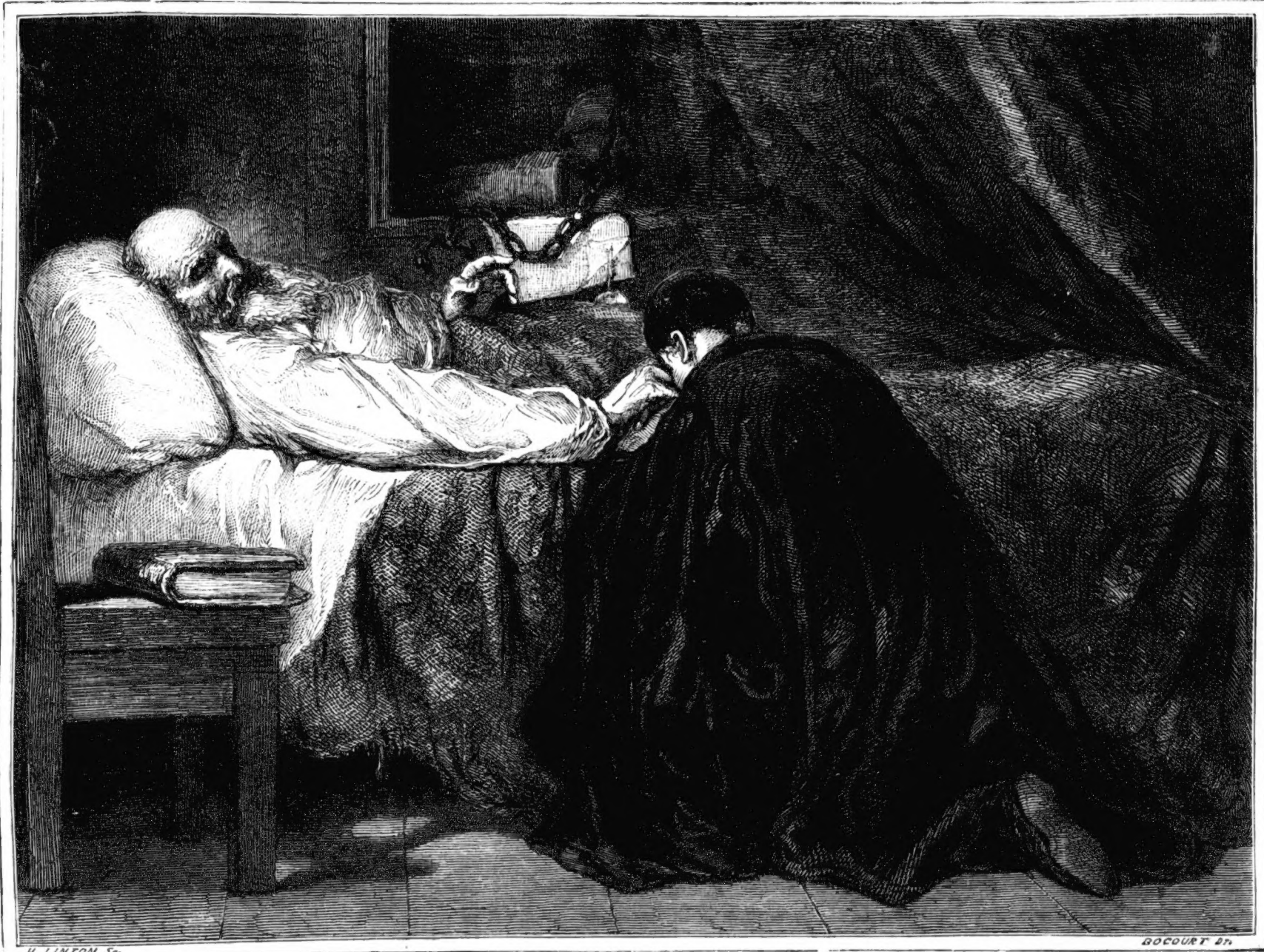
MORALS AND MANNERS IN HIGH LIFE.

THE *Morning Post* has undertaken to reform the morals and manners of the aristocracy. About a fortnight since we had a couple of articles descriptive of the dreadful "goings-on" of Mrs. Mayfair while her husband is at the House, and of how Lady Fanny is obliged to rival our modern Aspasias if she hopes to win the favour of the young men. Now a third article appears. It is amusing; but how much taste or truth there is in it we leave our readers to say:—

"There is scarcely any green spot in the history of that mighty empire which, from the time of Romulus to that of Constantine, occupied the most important place in the eyes of the civilised and civilising world, which will be found so interesting alike to the sentimental reveries of the poet and the speculative investigation of the philosopher as the reflection that from its very commencement, through its periods of struggling vicissitude, intellectual refinement, and dissolute luxury, its citizens, those rough warriors, those polished scholars, those sensual profligates, originated, perfected, and maintained an institution at once the purest, the frailest, and the most refined that, perhaps, the mind of man could ever have imagined. To a selection of fair maidens, unblemished in mind and person, the Romans, wise in their generation, intrusted the keeping of their sacred fire, and of that palladium in which the very existence of the empire was supposed to be vitally involved. With these emblems they at the same time delegated to them the virtual superintendence of all that was pure, of all that was feminine, of all that was worthy of reverence and admiration. In their holy keeping were the wills of the Emperors considered safe and inviolable; to their pure judgment were causes of moment submitted, and their word, without the formal addition of an oath, decisive in any assertion. At the games and festivals the seat of honour was

ever accorded to them; a public guard attended them in their processions, and the sweet blessing of mercy sprang up in their path, for the criminal was pardoned who accidentally encountered them. In life the highest honour was theirs, and insult or want of deference to them a capital crime; nor after death were they less distinguished, for they were buried within the walls of the city, a privilege granted but to few. Such was the institution of the Vestal Virgins—the pride, the reverence, of ancient Rome.

"Let us abandon the reins to fancy, and imagine the possibility of some refined citizen of that mighty empire who had lived, loved, fought, and been 'quietly inurned' centuries ago, being suddenly permitted to re-enter the flesh, allowed for a certain term to walk the earth, and to testify to the alteration or improvement in the world since the Augustan age. Marcius Crispus—then becoming somewhat blasé of the Elysian Fields, tired, perhaps, with Proserpine's perpetual escort duty, or of changing from Lethe Barracks to Phlegethon Park, and vice versa—advances the usual plea of 'urgent private affairs,' and having thereon received leave of absence from Pluto's gallant Deputy Adjutant-General, Sir Alfred Vadequus, proceeds to gather together his impedimenta, resolved upon making the most of his furlough. Bearing in mind certain long-winded stories, narrated by the ghost of a former commander of his, one Julius Caesar, concerning an out-of-the-way part of the world called Britain, where he was supposed to have somewhat distinguished himself, he is fired with the idea of exploring that barbaric land in his own person, under the hope that so strange a country may tend to dissipate his ennui, and probably fortify him with some material for 'capping' the yarns of his august chief on his return to the immortal fireside. Accordingly, furnished with the best introductions, and an unlimited letter of credit by Messrs. Plutus and Co., the well-known bankers of Via Cisalpina, he sets forth on his travels,



THE DEATH OF COLUMBUS.—(FROM A PICTURE BY ROBERT FLEURY.)

and, after the usual 'unusually quick passage,' lands exactly where his Imperial Commander-in-Chief had landed B.C. 55.

"We will not attempt to follow our illustrious stranger through the wonderments and disappointments which await him on every side as he compares our architectural eccentricities with the arches, columns, and palaces of his own glorious city. We had rather record his feelings as he gazes on Buckingham Palace, and sighs over the memory of the golden house of Nero, finished just before he first crossed the Styx, nor his amazement at the shapeless mass which is pointed out to him as a Coliseum! But, if amusement be one of his objects, we admit he finds it amply afforded to him by the contemplation of certain bewildering vagaries which he is seriously informed are fountains! Our business is rather with his impressions of animated nature, and to those impressions will for the present confine ourselves.

"Furnished, then, with the best introductions, he resolves henceforth to turn his attention—as likely to afford him the deepest pleasure and elicit his highest admiration—to that fair class of the community whence, on 'the seven hills of yore,' the Vestals would have been selected.

"Alas! Marcius Crispus is doomed to yet another disappointment or two. At the very commencement he is somewhat abashed by the free-and-easy nonchalance with which his deferential and respectful advances are encountered—by the unexpected rapidity with which he finds his acquaintanceship transformed into intimacy, his intimacy developed into familiarity, or what he in his innocence deems such. He finds subjects openly discussed in his presence of which he should have hoped the fair prattlers were utterly ignorant, or, being not ignorant, would have studiously concealed their knowledge; he perceives that he is likely to be voted 'slow' if he cannot contribute some 'spicy' bit of news to the general fund, prove himself conversant with all the scandals, liaisons, separations, and divorces then current, and soon discovers that, provided a very thin veil of 'manner' be retained, it

signifies little what may be the 'matter' of the subject under discussion. He takes his morning ride in the park, and finds himself too often looking in vain for the fathers, mothers, or brothers of the fair equestrians; he thinks the smart 'tiger' but a sorry substitute for the lie's and fancies which ever accompanied the Vestals of old, and wonders wherefore such unnecessary liberty is accorded to the moderns. Observing Phryne and Co. advancing up the Ride, he endeavours to avert the attention of his group in another direction, but his delicate stratagem is of no avail: to his amazement a prolonged stare is interchanged, and he hears Maria coolly remark to Jane, 'How pretty "Rosebud" is looking this morning,' or, 'No wonder Charley Poppleton makes such a fool of himself for "Twoshoes." He perceives that there is little connected with the frail equestrians unknown or undiscussed by his fair companions. "Dii superi," exclaims our gallant captain, 'but they behaved more decently than this, Consule Planco.'

"He accompanies a distinguished party to the races; there he flatters himself that his ancient prowess in the arena may enable him to edify his fair friends. He soon finds them much more knowing than himself—up to all the public running and the private trials—quite aware that Thormanby is scratched, and Butterfly safe to win; and, almost before he knows where he is, he is informed—lucky if the information be not more serious—that he is debtor for so many dozen pairs of gloves, that six and a half is the number, and Houbigant decidedly the only purveyor. He betakes himself to a ball, and, venturing on a waltz with one of the liveliest, almost fancies he detects the traces of the odour of a fragrant leaf hitherto supposed by him to be restricted to masculine lips. "Baccho favente," swears the astounded Marcius, 'but this is too bad!'

"But if he is somewhat startled by the wilful acts and uncontrolled manners of the lovely objects of his scrutiny, what must be his amazement at the nature of the sentiments he too frequently hears polluting

their young and ruddy lips! In vain he listens for pure thoughts, graceful suggestions, or delicate advice, such as would have been never wanting from Cornelia to Sempronius, but in their stead often finds a systematic disavowal of the holiest feelings desirable in the heart of woman; advice from parents considered out of date and 'old-fashioned'; deference to their elders 'such a bore'; restraint or authority of any kind quite out of the question. He learns that the tender pangs of love are to originate not in the heart, but the pocket, and marriage unjustifiable save sanctioned by ample settlements and a sufficiency of diamonds.

"Our noble Roman is completely puzzled. In vain he strives to admit the possibility of purity in practice with such an open abandonment of it in theory; in vain he is assured that this meretricious complexion, so revolting to his sight, lies only on the surface, and is but a frivolous affectation, assumed only to attract attention, and in reality foreign to the true nature of the fair perpetrators; nay, that in nine cases out of ten these noisy, unfeminine, independent slang-chatterers, by the magic wand of Hymen, will be found transformed into modest wives, devoted mothers, and estimable members of society. He is sceptical of it all; as a man, he cannot comprehend it, as a foreigner he utterly disbelieves it; and, grieved as well as disappointed, he makes his final bow, leaves his P.P.C., and, as he hands over his passport to old Charon and once more catches a glimpse of the Elysian Fields, ejaculates, with a shrug of his phantom shoulders, 'Pluto defend me from the "fast girls" of Great Britain!'

MR. T. CHAFFERS, many years manager of the Royal Liverpool Bank, committed suicide by hanging himself in his bedroom on Monday night. The death of a brother, which occurred several weeks ago, seems to have preyed much on the mind of deceased, and induced extreme melancholy. It is as well to add that his pecuniary affairs at the bank were perfectly correct.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

HER Majesty's Theatre, after a short season at reduced prices, closed on Saturday last, when the performances (which were for the benefit of Mlle. Titiens) included the "Shadow Scene," from the "Pardon de Ploërmel," sung and acted to perfection by Mlle. Marie Cabel, the original representative of the part of Dinorah at the Opéra Comique; the last scene of "Lucia di Lammermoor," in which Signor Giuglini greatly distinguished himself by his delivery of "Fra poco," and "Oberon," between the acts of which Mlle. Ferraris and M. Chappuy appeared in the "pas de deux" from "Orfèdo." The house was crowded, and everything and everybody were applauded; above all, Mlle. Titiens, the heroine of the evening. We do not suppose that it will interest our readers to be told on what particular day the "Traviata" was played for the first time this season, nor the exact number of times that the "Trovatore" has been represented; besides which, those who feel interested in such details must already have perused them in the morning journals, where they are chronicled with all the dignity, and far more than the accuracy, of history. We may mention, however, that the theatre opened on the 10th of April (with "Martha"); that one new opera only, and that a very poor one ("Almina," by Signor Campana), has been brought out; but that, on the other hand, two of Rossini's great masterpieces ("Otello" and "Semiramide") have been revived, while the recent production of Weber's "Oberon" was, as regarded the trouble and expense of getting it up, and also the interest felt in it by the public, almost equivalent to the production of an entirely new work. With respect to the company, we can fairly say that Mr. E. T. Smith engaged for his first campaign a larger number of first-rate singers than were ever heard together before during any one season at Her Majesty's Theatre. It is not often that in criticising a manager's proceedings a journal has to reproach him with exceeding his promises; but Mr. E. T. Smith would really have done better if he had engaged fewer artists—that is to say, better as regards himself and the artists, and quite as well as regards the public. Thus it was a pity to introduce such a distinguished vocalist as Mlle. Marie Cabel at the very end of the season, when she had only once an opportunity of appearing in an entire opera. Mlle. Alboni, too, and Mlle. Borghi-Mamo, during the latter half of the season, were constantly interfering with one another. These, however, are errors in management which it is only too easy to avoid; and, perhaps, we ought to content ourselves with simply recording our appreciation of the enterprise and liberality of the *impresario*, who does not think it too much to engage such singers as Titiens, Alboni, Borghi-Mamo, and Cabel, Giuglini, Mongini, Belart, Everardi, and Ciampi, and when, by merely consulting his own immediate profit, he might have carried on his theatre without at least four of the eminent vocalists named—to say nothing of a host of subordinates, whose numbers might quite as easily have been thinned. On the other hand, neither the chorus nor the orchestra have been worthy of the theatre, and this through no fault of either M. Benedict or Signor Arditi, who cannot, of course, be expected to turn incompetent players and singers into competent ones.

At the Royal Italian Opera the second and third performances of "Le Prophète" were remarkable for the immense improvement observable in the two principal vocalists. No traces of the nervousness remarked on the first night were apparent, and both artists gave full scope to their powers. Mlle. Caillag was in unusually good voice, and her vocal execution approached far more nearly the perfection of her historic delineations than on the first representation of the opera. The air "O figlio mio!" calls into play the highest and the lowest notes in her voice, which are also the most powerful; and this wonderful composition, in which Fides blesses her son for having saved his mother's life, was sung by Mlle. Caillag with extraordinary pathos. The scene in which Signor Tamberlik most excels is that in which John of Leyden quells his turbulent troops; and here he certainly has no rival. The prayer was most expressively sung, and from this point up to the final scene, in which the "prophet" sings the famous drinking song, Signor Tamberlik's performance was unexceptional. Of the orchestra, chorus, scenery, and general *mise en scène* it is impossible to speak in terms of too high praise. Even the least striking scenes, such as the frozen lake and the picturesque market-place of Münster, are quite equal as works of art to the grand cathedral interior, and this forms one of the most marvellous theatrical tableaux ever beheld.

At the Surrey Gardens a concert is to be given on Monday, August 6, when the principal feature will be a selection of popular Irish melodies. In order to give full effect to this novel idea there will be a chorus of 200 voices, in addition to the following vocalists—Miss Parepa, Miss Poole, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Sims Reeves, it being the last performance of this gentleman at these gardens.

REVIEW OF THE COLDESTREAM GUARDS.—The Duke of Cambridge and Lord Clyde reviewed the first battalion of Coldestream Guards in Hyde Park on Saturday. A vast number of persons assembled to witness the proceedings, but the arrangements were so well made that everybody was able to see all that was going on. The men composing the battalion left the Wellington Barracks at a few minutes before ten o'clock, and marched up Constitution-hill to that portion of Hyde Park in which Her Majesty reviewed the volunteers a few weeks since. The regiment was preceded by its band and colours, conspicuous amongst which were those of Egypt, Waterloo, the Peninsula, and Sebastopol. Lord Clyde was loudly cheered. The review, which lasted an hour and a quarter, was a most interesting sight, all the evolutions having been gone through with the utmost skill. At its close Lord Clyde was again loudly cheered until he reached Piccadilly.

THE EMBANKMENT OF THE THAMES.—The Thames Embankment Committee have presented their report. They find that, if the low-level sewer about to be made by the Metropolitan Board of Works were carried under the Strand and Fleet-street, vast injury would be inflicted on the trade and traffic of the district. The importance of providing for the construction of the low-level sewer in connection with the embankment has been recognised by the various engineers whose plans have been submitted to them; and provision is made in all these plans for constructing the low-level sewer along the foreshore of the river, and within the embankment. The Committee have had many plans before them, out of which they have agreed to select the three presented by Messrs. Bazilgette, Bidder, and Fowler, civil engineers. All of these comprise the plan of including in the embankment the low-level sewer on the north side of the Thames, the embankment to extend from Westminster-bridge to London-bridge. All the plans comprise a railway and a roadway. The wharves are to be improved by the construction of docks and other facilities within the embankment. The Committee recommend that as the Legislature have already intrusted the main drainage of the metropolis to the Metropolitan Board of Works, by the 21st and 22nd Vic., cap. civ., sec. 11, and armed them with powers to deal with the foreshore of the river in connection therewith, the construction of the embankment should also be intrusted to them. They recommend that, in aid of the funds already voted for the sewer, the coal and wine duties, which are to expire in 1861, should be renewed for a limited time, and the proceeds be applied to the expenses of the embankment. The whole expenses of the embankment, including sewers, &c., are estimated at a million. One-fourth of this at least would be the cost of the length of sewer to be made; indeed, it would be much more if it ran under Fleet-street and the Strand. The rest is to be raised by the renewal of the 81. and the 1d. coal tax, and the wine duty of 31., from which an annual sum of £100,000 may be expected, and the Committee recommend that the cost of the embankment should be a first charge upon these duties.

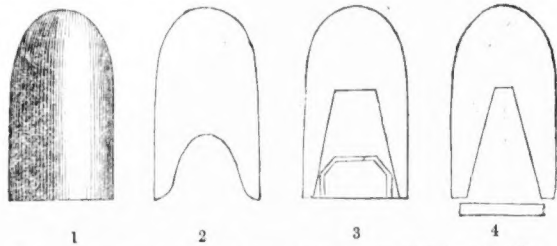
ACCIDENT IN A RAILWAY TUNNEL.—About 9.15 p.m. on Saturday the up express train, due in London at 9.30 p.m., from Liverpool, Manchester, and the north, had proceeded safely on its journey up to about midway of Tottenham tunnel (about three-quarters of a mile in length), when, from the breaking of one of the fore axles of the engine, the whole train was thrown completely off the line, in the utmost disorder and confusion. The engine running against one side of the tunnel brought the train to a stand, throwing some of the carriages on the down rails and against one side of the tunnel, while the engine reined on the other. The guard's van had its top taken completely off, and the wheels, axles, and doors of some of the carriages were much broken; the whole forming a dead block to both the up and down lines. The lights in nearly the whole of the carriages were extinguished, and what with the alarm-whistle, the shrieks of the passengers, and the total darkness, the feelings of the terrified passengers may be imagined. Fortunately, however—almost miraculously—none of the passengers were seriously hurt. Had the accident occurred on an embankment the results must have been very different.—An accident equally likely to produce disastrous results occurred on Monday on the Blackwall Railway. A train was thrown across the rails, several of the carriages being crushed. Nobody was hurt, however.

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE RIFLE,

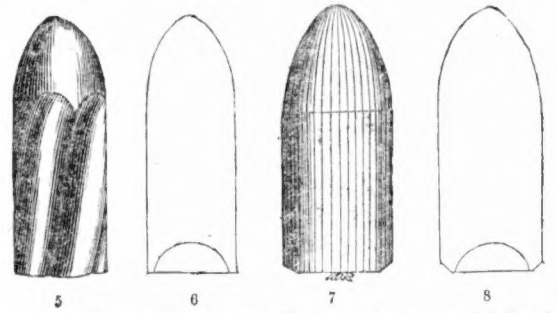
ACCORDING TO THE LATEST AND MOST APPROVED SYSTEMS.

(Continued from page 59.)

MR. BOUCHER's bullet is also free from the objections urged both against the minié and the present service bullet—namely, the tendency in both of the latter to separate from the cup or plug during their flight, a circumstance that might cause an apprehension of danger in firing over the heads of bodies of men. The following diagram represents the Government and Pritchett bullet, the present service bullet, and the disc bullet. They are all similar in form on the outside, as shown in fig. 1. Fig. 2 is a section of the Pritchett, fig. 3 one of the service bullet, and fig. 4 a section of the disc bullet.



In describing the barrels of the Lancaster and Whitworth rifles we had occasion to describe the bullets of both. The accompanying cut will, however, convey a more perfect idea of their form. Fig. 5 is the outward form of the Whitworth bullet, and fig. 6 a section of it, showing the cavity intended to expand the bullet by the explosion of the gases. Fig. 7 is the Lancaster bullet covered with thin greased paper, and fig. 8 a section of the same.



The American military service bullet is a perfect cone, pointed, and is grooved horizontally with three indentations. It has no plug, only a sharply-pointed cavity in the base for expansion. The Swiss bullet is solid, smaller than the English bullet, but more elongated in proportion to its breadth. It is rounded at the top and flat at the base, at which end it is deeply grooved horizontally. It is on these grooves that they depend for expansion, their depth causing the soft lead to be thrown forward at the moment of explosion, thus shortening the length of the projectile, and consequently adding to its breadth, at the same time filling the grooves and lessening the windage.

There is no doubt whatever that all those bullets and a number of others which have from time to time been brought under the notice of the public possess, each in its own way, peculiar advantages; and there is every reason to suppose that now that the subject of rifle-shooting has become a matter of almost universal interest the best points of all will one day be united. It is quite certain that we have had no bullet yet which at all comes up to the standard of perfection. We have tried in turn all of them, and have made very fair practice with each, but we invariably found that we made the best when we departed in a trifling degree from the system taught at Hythe, excellent as that system is. The departure from it was certainly very trifling, but yet one that would not be tolerated in military practice. It was simply the use of a naked bullet instead of a ball-cartridge. We, having measured our powder (two drachms and a half), put it up in cartridges for convenience, and took our bullets in a bag. Having poured the powder into the barrel, we threw the paper entirely away, and slipped in a nicely-greased, smooth bullet, which exactly fitted the bore and went smoothly to the bottom with the gentlest pressure. We could never be convinced that the paper round the bullet was of the slightest use whatever, but the contrary. It not only prevents the lead filling the grooves perfectly, but it gets nipped by the bullet in its passage, thus causing a jerk, which creates great wildness in the flight of the projectile at long ranges. In greasing bullets every sort of grit must be carefully removed from the mixture. The best medium is a very hot mixture of two parts beeswax, one part tallow or lard, and one part of soft soap. The bullets must be warm at the moment of dipping them, or the coating will chip off at the muzzle instead of entering the barrel. It must also be laid on extremely thin.

GUNPOWDER.

Gunpowder, as is well known, is a composition of saltpetre, sulphur, and charcoal, the proportions of each ingredient, however, differing in different countries. It may be described as an elastic fluid. This property of an elastic fluid is imparted to it by the decomposition of the saltpetre, the instantaneous decomposition of which is caused by its intimate connection with the sulphur and charcoal—by the sulphur, because it easily takes fire and propagates the inflammation, though the heat it produces is not sufficient to decompose the saltpetre. Therefore charcoal becomes a necessary ingredient, because its inflammation, as well as its propagation, is slower. Besides which, when it becomes red-hot it acquires a stronger heat than sulphur, and is, therefore, more capable of producing the entire decomposition of the saltpetre. According to Mr. Robins the force of ignited gunpowder is about 1000 times the strength or elasticity of common air, or 1000 times stronger than the pressure of the atmosphere. The pressure of the atmosphere is about 15lb. on every square inch, and, therefore, 1000 times this, or 15,000lb., is the force or pressure of the flame, at the moment of explosion, upon a square inch. Dr. Hutton, however, states that by a series of careful experiments he found that Mr. Robins laboured under an error with regard to the heat of the flame; and that, consequently, the strength of inflated gunpowder is about 2000 times stronger than the pressure of the common atmosphere—being equivalent to 13 tons on the square inch. By subsequent experiments it was found that the pressure is even a little higher. Some authors on gunnery estimate it at even a higher pressure, and a ridiculous amount of contradictory theories on the subject exists among some of the most eminent savants.

John Bernoulli considered the initial force as equal to 100 times the pressure of the atmosphere, whilst Daniel Bernoulli made it 10,000. Braechus determines it at 450; D'Antone as lying between 1400 and 1900; and Ingenhous at 2276. According to Dulacy it is 4000; by Amontons it is estimated at 5000; and by Lombard it is stated at 9215. After this there is a rapidly-increasing estimate among other experimenters—M. Le General Martilliere representing it as 43,600; Count Rumford at 54,750; and M. Gay de Vernon, who outdoes all his competitors, states it as making from 30,000 to 80,000.

Gunpowder explodes at 600° Fahrenheit. In comparison with either detonating powder or gun-cotton its ignition is slow. Gun-cotton may be placed on gunpowder and ignited, but so rapid is the inflammation, explosion, and exhaustion of the cotton that, although it will explode on the surface of the gunpowder, the latter will remain unignited. Many first-class authorities on rifle-shooting consider that if its inflammable power could be still further checked it would be advantageous; and the best American shots say that the first-class English powder will not make such good rifle-shooting as the weak American and French. Chapman, an American author and rifle-shot, more idiomatically than

elegantly, says that the strong powder, from its rapid action, knocks the bullet into a cocked hat before it has time to leave the barrel, and thus spoils the evenness of its flight. For shot-guns the peculiar quality of the gunpowder is not of near the importance that it is in rifle-shooting; for the latter the powder must neither be too fine in the grain, nor too coarse; very fine gunpowder is too quick in its action, and very coarse powder is too slow; with the former the bullet would be expelled before it had time to properly expand, with the latter it would leave the muzzle before all the force that powder of that quality was capable of generating had reached its highest point; consequently a portion of the powder would remain in the barrel unconsumed, and the impetus given to the bullet would be insufficient to thoroughly expand it, and therefore the rifling of it would be imperfect. To obviate this difficulty a powder intended specially for rifle-shooting is manufactured; it is bright and silvery, and of a round medium grain.

The best gunpowder, if allowed to absorb moisture in the slightest degree, becomes deteriorated, and if allowed to become positively damp it is good for nothing.

The explosive sound of gunpowder is caused by the rapid derangement of air in the combustibles, and the shock of striking upon the volume of the external atmosphere. The velocity of the flame, when not impeded by a bullet, is calculated at the rate of 7000 feet in a second, or little less than 79 miles per minute.

PERCUSSION POWDERS.

A fulminating powder may be made with chlorate of potash, charcoal, and sulphur, but it attracts moisture speedily, and corrodes every metal it comes in contact with. It is, therefore, injurious to every gun with which it is used. The fulminating mercury, on the contrary, when mixed with a sixth of its weight of gunpowder, will take fire after several hours' immersion in water. This preparation detonates loudly by gentle heat or slight friction. An attempt, however, on the part of any one not thoroughly accustomed to the operation would be attended with considerable danger, and, after all, would not, except under very unusual circumstances, be worth the risk.

CARTRIDGES.

In the regular Army every barrack is supplied by the War Department with the following articles for the instruction of soldiers in the construction of cartridges:—Five tin measures, to hold 2½ drachms of gunpowder each; five tin funnels (long, narrow spouts); twelve mandrils of hard wood for cartridge pattern 1853; twelve formers; one set of tin patterns to show the size and shape for cartridge; one large knife; twenty quires of white paper for inner and outer envelopes; six quires of cartridge paper for cylinder of cartridge; half a bushel of fine sand; and fifty rifle bullets; together with diagrams and printed directions for their use.

(To be continued.)

THE NEW ARTILLERY.

THE official experiments with the Whitworth guns commenced on Wednesday, the 25th ult., and were continued on Thursday and Friday.

On Wednesday the 12-pounders—firing shells weighing 10lb., with 12lb. of powder—attained a maximum range, at an elevation of five degrees, of 2658 yards, the minimum range being 2606. The deviations from the line of fire were generally to the left, and varied from 1½ feet to 7 feet. At an angle of seven degrees the shell was thrown at farthest to 3386 yards, the variation from the line of fire being increased. An increase of the charge of powder to 2lb., the gun being placed at an angle of ten degrees, threw the shell to 4576 yards maximum, 4555 minimum; the direction from the line of fire ranged from 6 to 19 feet, always to the left. With solid shot somewhat lesser ranges were attained, but the deviation was not so great.

The 80-pounder gun, at an angle of two degrees, firing shell weighing 55lb., with a charge of 14lb. of powder, attained a maximum range of 1588 yards; minimum, 1409. The deviation was generally about three feet. Experiments were then made with solid shot of 70lb., the charge of powder being 14lb. At two degrees the range varied from 1277 to 1321 yards, the deviation from the line of fire being little more than one foot in three cases out of five; in the other two it was nil. With an elevation of three degrees a range of 1801 yards was reached, the deviation being still very slight.

At the conclusion of the second day's experiments a few shots were fired to test the practicability of using the breech-loading 80-pounder as a muzzle-loading gun. No special preparation had been made for this experiment. The powder was hastily tied up in square pieces of flannel, so as to form cartridges. The cartridges and shot were pushed in at the muzzle and rammed home in the usual way. As it was desired to observe the effect of the ricochet, only half charges of powder were used. The charges were fired without any difficulty; the distances of the first grazes averaged about 940 yards, and the shot then ricocheted with precision to a considerable distance. As the velocity diminished they were deflected from the line of fire in the direction in which the gun is rifled to the right.

On Friday morning a few experiments were made with the 12-pounder and 80 pounder, fired at high elevations. The range obtained with the 80-pounder, firing 55lb. shell, at 10 deg. of elevation, was 5043 yards! The time of flight, as observed by the naval officers present (Captain Herbert, Captain Halstead, and Lieut. Ward), was 13.8 seconds. The range obtained with the 12-pounder, firing 12lb. solid shot, charge 2lb., at 35 deg., was upwards of 10,100 yards! The exact distance to which the shot was hurled could not be ascertained, as it overshot the extent of dry-land range that was available (9800 yards), and fell into the sea. The time of flight, as observed by the naval officers, was stated to be 40½ seconds. This is the greatest range and the longest flight that has ever yet been recorded for any projectile fired from any gun.

It ought to be stated in justice to both the gunners and the gun, that, in many cases, the differences in range and deviation observable in the published tables have been attributed to the fact that different qualities of powder were used on the first day, and, in some cases, the sight was put by mistake at wrong elevations—a circumstance not to be wondered at when it is remembered that the cannon were for the first time handed over to the Royal Artillerymen and naval gunners, who, though they worked the guns admirably, had never fired a Whitworth gun before.

Some officers and others qualified to give an opinion, being doubtful whether the Whitworth and Armstrong breech-loaders will be found equal to the actual contingencies of war, it is intended to make some trials of both kinds of guns by firing at the breech, for the purpose of ascertaining the effects produced upon them when struck by shot.

Twenty cases of Armstrong guns were dispatched last week from the factory at Elswick, and the most unabated activity still prevails at the Royal Arsenal in the manufacture of the same description of ordnance, under the superintendence of Mr. Anderson. A large number of heavy guns, intended exclusively for the naval service, have recently been turned out.

THE ARMY.—We understand that the number of new regiments of the line to be added to the Army, in consequence of the extinction of the local European force in India, will be nine altogether, of which three will be cavalry and six infantry. In these regiments promotion will not be regulated by the purchase system in operation in the rest of the Line. It will be more on the old Indian system of pure regimental seniority, "tempered," however, by selection, especially in the higher ranks. We believe it is not at present contemplated to interfere with the organisation of the Bombay and Madras cavalry.

RUSSIAN FORTIFICATIONS ON THE SEA OF AZOFF.—A communication from Taganrog, in the *Levant Herald*, says:—"Some time back I called your attention to the very extensive works which had been commenced by the Russians at the entrance of the Sea of Azoff. The fortifications now in course of construction are on a scale surpassing anything that existed at Sebastopol, both as regards strength and extent. Our local commercial community are in a state of alarm; for they view this heavy armament of the point of Kerch as something more than merely supplying the former fortification of Yenikale."

LAW AND CRIME.

To observant persons carefully studying the reports in the various journals the mysterious child-murder near Frome appears gradually approaching a satisfactory solution. The apprehension of Miss Constance Kent, the half-sister of the deceased, although in itself either a stupid error or a most cruel and reckless plan to obtain a judicial investigation at any price, has not without its results. This unfortunate young lady has been subjected to the terror of a public examination on a charge of murder upon the ground that a nightgown belonging to her is missing. The evidence shows that the lost garment was seen; that it exhibited no particular appearances beyond those of its having been worn; that it was put into the wash-basket; and that it has not since been discovered. The washerwoman says that five minutes after she had received the basket she searched in it for a nightgown which she had heard was missing. This is very odd. How could the washerwoman have heard, "by rumour," as she states, that the nightgown was missing when it was only missing after having been placed in the wash-basket? If known to be missing, why should she search for it in the wash-basket, where it could not possibly be if really missing that being its proper destination and the place whence missed, if at all? Unluckily, the prisoner's own counsel objected to the very proper and obvious question by the magistrates as to the source of the rumour. This, certainly, was objectionable, when the objection was made by him; but we cannot but think such an objection unfavourable to an elucidation by which the accused might have been cleared, and could not have been injured. The motive for the murder—hitherto the most incomprehensible part of the matter—appears to be clearly enough suggested by the medical evidence. The child's eyes and tongue were protruding, as though his throat had been compressed during life. This was evidently to stop his making an outcry; and it is probable that his having commenced to do so was the cause of his being carried off and killed. His mother was in her bedroom, and, says the nursemaid in her evidence, "if he had cried his mother would have fetched him." His head was muffled in the blanket, and yet the bedclothes were so neatly turned down that the blanket was not missed till the body was found. Now, it is not likely that a man committing a murder would either, during the work, remake the bed, or, after the act, would return to do so. Yet the child's throat was cut, through blanket and night dress, "in a manner requiring great force, nearly down to the spine," says the surgeon. This, therefore, could scarcely be by a woman's hand. But yet more singular is the evidence of a Mr. William Nutt, son-in-law of the washerwoman. He, being requested by a neighbour to join in the search for a lost child, went directly to the premises whence the child was missing, and, disregarding all fears of the law of trespass and of the watchdog, of which so much has been written, traversed the lawn of Mr. Kent's house, and said he would look for a dead child. "We went," says he, "straight from the lower corner (of the lawn) to the closet, where I saw the pool of blood." He had previously only looked through a hedge on one side. On seeing this indication he at once said, "It is as I predicted," and ran off for a candle. He met the charwoman, who, observing his manner, cried "Good God! what's the matter, William?" Mr. Nutt was somewhat confused as to the facts of a previous examination, a week before. He did not recollect his examination being read over to him, would not swear it was not read over by the magistrate's clerk, thought the signature to the deposition rather like his writing, but said "it seemed written in a rather firmer hand than mine was on that day." Would not swear whether that was his signature or not, but admits that he put his name to what Mr. Clark (the clerk to the magistrate) wrote. Mr. Nutt is evidently not an ignorant unlettered scribe; for he has been clerk of the district church for seventeen years, and is a highly respectable personage, although the charwoman addresses him as "William." His wife assists her mother in her occupation as a laundress. He had stated, according to the depositions, that Mr. Kent first called upon him on the morning of the murder, but this (says he) was not correct: it was a neighbour named Grinnell. At the close of the examination Miss Kent was discharged, her father being bound over in £200 for her reappearance if required. Our own opinion upon these facts will be that which has probably occurred to many. We think that the murder was not committed by an inmate of the house, though possibly some female inmate knows something of the matter and arranged the bedclothes. The act was that of a man, not an inmate of the house, but no stranger to it nevertheless. The missing nightgown has been concealed or destroyed to divert suspicion into a false channel; but, happily for Miss Constance Kent, it was not stolen before it had been seen sufficiently to establish her innocence. That trap, if such it were, has signally failed, and, moreover, has opened a new clue to the murderer. Who can have stolen that night dress? And how could the laundress have heard of its loss before examining the basket in which the maid of the house believed it to be when delivered to her? Is there, or is there not, any man reported in the village to be on familiar terms with one of Mr. Kent's female servants? And is there or not any truth in such report?

An appeal was brought by one John Goppin, who had been convicted and sentenced by a magistrate to imprisonment for a month in the House of Correction on a charge under the Act relating to combinations of workmen. The appellant had acted, in concert with others, in carrying out a "strike" against a master who persisted in employing two labourers who had entered his service under the terms of the well-known document. The details of the case have been already related in these columns, and we have now only to add that the Court of Sessions for Middlesex confirmed the conviction, with costs, and ordered the appellant to be sent to the House of Correction to fulfil his sentence.

Last week we had to remark upon the sad fate of young Cancellor, the victim of his insensate schoolmaster, Hopley. This week Mary Allen, a person acting as a schoolmistress, in a more humble state of society, offers an illustration of the height to which brutality may be carried by those intrusted with the care of children. Caroline Lefevre, aged eight, is the daughter of a labourer in Barclay's brewery, evidently a man of obtuse sensibilities; for, after notice of systematic cruelties practised upon his infant daughter, he leaves the matter in his wife's hands, being himself too much occupied with his employment to attend

to the duties of a parent. At length little Caroline is brought before a magistrate. She is nearly blinded by blows from a cane across her face and eyes, her back is "one black mass of bruises," and her elbows are marked by two large ulcerated wounds. She is terrified at the sight of "governess," who, as a prisoner, appears simultaneously in the court, and at first she attributes the state of her elbows to a fall. When assured of protection, she gives in evidence that the bruises were caused by the prisoner, and that the wounds on her arms were burns inflicted by the prisoner with a hot flat-iron by way of punishment. The poor child said, "About a week ago I was playing with the mat, when she called out, 'Leave that alone!' Because I did not do so as quick as she liked she took a hot flat-iron from the fire and put it on my arms." The explanation of all this—the audacious cruelty of the governess, and of the stolid apathy of the father—appears to be that there is a stepmother in the case. The poor infant is sent to school to be out of the way, not as a pupil, but as a common drudge. No payment is made for her education, and the father places her with the dreadful Mary Allen as a companion, as he calls it. The magistrate, while expressing his intention of sending the case for trial, takes the precaution of binding over the father to produce the child in order to prevent a possible compromise. The prisoner is at present remanded.

ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.—MAIDSTONE.

PAINFUL CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.—George Henry Matthews, a boy of fourteen, surrendered to take his trial for the manslaughter of Henry Emery. On the evening of the 8th of June the prisoner and deceased, who was one of his playfellows, and ten years old, were in the bakehouse of a person named Durling, at Chatham. Durling had been out with a gun shooting sparrows, and the last time he attempted to fire the gun it did not explode, and he left the cap on, and placed the gun behind some sacks in the bakehouse, and he then sat down and amused himself by playing a flute. While he was so engaged the prisoner took up the gun and pointed it at his companion, and almost at the same instant it went off and shot the boy in the face, carrying away the entire roof of his mouth, lodging in the brain, and thus causing instantaneous death. The prisoner appeared to be overwhelmed with sorrow at what had happened, and there was some ground for supposing that the gun went off accidentally; but, at all events, it was perfectly clear that the prisoner had no intention of doing any serious mischief.

The jury returned a verdict of "Not guilty."

POLICE.

THE SUPPOSED DEAF AND DUMB GIRL.—SYSTEMATIC ROBBERIES.—Last week Mary Riley, a girl stated to be deaf and dumb, who was charged with entering the shop of a Mrs. Huddleston, and while dragging her from one part of it to the other to point, as it appeared, at what she desired, picking her pocket of her purse. As it was strongly suspected that the accused was simulating the affliction named, she was remanded for inquiry on Tuesday last.

Her solicitor now asked the magistrate to allow her brother to interpret the evidence to her as before. Inspector Humphreys said that the accused had been previously convicted of a similar robbery to the present, and had undergone an imprisonment of twelve months. On that occasion her brother—supposed to be the same person as now present—had been committed for a month for attempting to rescue her.

Mr. Arnold observed that he entertained great doubt about her being deaf and dumb.

Emily Huddleston was then called, and, having stated that the brother not only was outside when the robbery was committed upon her mother, but stopped her (the daughter) when in pursuit of the accused.

Prisoner ejaculated something closely resembling the word "perjury," and then gave vent to a number of inarticulate sounds.

Mr. Arnold directed the brother to be included in the charge of felony, and placed by her side.

Mr. Simpson, an instructor of deaf and dumb, was then requested to act as interpreter.

Mr. Simpson, who himself had so great an impediment in his speech that he communicated mainly with the magistrate in writing, informed him that there was a test by which it could be ascertained whether a person could hear.

Mr. Arnold requested him to apply it to the female prisoner.

By Mr. Simpson's directions a person went behind the dock and stamped violently while he engaged her attention in front. He then wrote on a piece of paper and handed to the magistrate, "Feeling is the test of a person being deaf; the attention of deaf people is always attracted in that way. She would not notice it."

Mr. Arnold did not consider the test very fairly applied, as the flooring of the dock is higher than the court, and of a different description, and thought it would perhaps be as well to let Mr. Simpson interpret the depositions to her, which he did with extraordinary ability and clearness by signs and gestures, a crowded auditory having their attention riveted to the pantomimic illustration.

Another charge, similar to the first, was then proved against the girl; and in a third a Mrs. Hickman, of Gloucester-terrace, Mile-end, was called, and said—I am an undertaker. That young woman there came into my shop on the 25th of June, and terrified me shockingly.

Mr. Arnold—What did she do?

Mrs. Hickman—She pointed to some stillborn coffins.

Mr. Arnold—To what?

Mrs. Hickman—Stillborn coffins. (Much laughter.)

Stillborn coffins in the window. I asked her if she wanted one, when she made such a hideous noise. She turned round, and as she faced me, and turned up her eyes, and turned up her tongue, she made such a hideous noise that I trembled, and my fright was so great that I called my daughter. She then went towards the men's coffins, when I said, "Do you want a man to go with you to take an order?" and she replied, "Man." I said, "I can't understand you; you had better fetch a man." She said after me, "Fetch man," and I replied, "Yes, I think that would be the best way," and she went out, and as I thought there was something very mysterious about it I followed her, and she went into a linen-draper's, and was served with a ball of cotton. (Intense laughter.) She stopped in the shop as though putting something in her boot. I was standing at the door of the shop, when observing me she exclaimed, "Fetch man," and went away. I went back to my shop, and found my pocket had been picked of 5s. and some other silver.

Mr. Arnold—Did she lay her hands upon you while in your shop?

Witness—She drew me right round to the front of her, and then made me tremble with her hideous noise.

Mr. Arnold remanded the prisoners till Friday, in order that the depositions might be prepared for the committal of the prisoners for trial.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY BY A BOY.—Alfred Jacobs, a youth about eighteen, was charged with robbing Mr. Langham, a tobaccoist, of Holborn-bury. On the 17th of July Mr. Langham went out about nine o'clock in the evening, leaving prisoner alone in the house. He was assistant and errand-boy, and had been in the situation twelve weeks. When prosecutor returned, about eleven at night, he found the shop not shut up, and got in, and found prisoner gone. He broke a window and got in, and then found that his desk had been picked of 5s. and some other silver.

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prisoner, stating that after the prosecutor went out he was taken ill. He went down stairs after, as he believed, fastening the doors, but while he was there he heard some one in the shop, and when he came up he found that the desk had been broken open, and the shop robbed. He left because he knew that if he stopped his master would give him into custody. The letter also promised to repay the money. When taken into custody, he repeated the statement made in the letter, and added that his master had committed the robbery himself, that he was a great villain, and that he would make him pay dearly for what he had done. He was apprehended at Liverpool, and on him "as found a passage-note, showing that he had paid £3 5s. for his passage to America. This had been paid in silver, and the name given by the prisoner was "Alfred Smith." The prisoner pleaded "Not Guilty," and was fully committed for trial.

MURDER AT WALWORTH.

William Godfrey Youngman was on Wednesday charged, at the Lambeth Police Court, with the murder of his mother, his two brothers, and a young woman named Streeter, to whom he was engaged to be married. The parties resided at 16, Manor-place, Walworth. On the day previous to that on which the murders were committed the young woman Streeter arrived from Sussex, and she and the prisoner went on a short excursion together, returning to his mother's house at night, apparently on good terms. The young woman slept with prisoner's mother. At six o'clock next morning the landlord of the house heard a scuffling overhead, and some screaming. He went up stairs and saw the body of the young woman and the younger boy lying on the landing. The woman had been stabbed under the heart, and the boy's throat was cut. The prisoner was found standing on the landing, having his night-dress on and his hands smeared with blood. He observed, "Here is a sight—what shall I do? My mother has done all this. I own that I struck her, but it was in self-defence."

The prisoner further stated that his mother had murdered the young woman and the boy, and would have murdered him if he had not struck her. The wristband of one of his shirt-sleeves had been torn off. It was afterwards found behind a box.

A long Spanish knife was produced in court, and there is little doubt but that it was the weapon with which the murders were committed; the point and part of the spring-guard was broken. Throughout the examination the prisoner maintained great calmness. He was remanded till Wednesday next.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

The imports of the precious metals this week have been on a liberal scale, they having amounted to about £100,000, but nearly the whole of that large amount has been disposed of for shipment to the Continent.

The Money Market is still well supplied with surplus capital, for which there is a fair demand. In Lombard-street first-class short bills have been done at 3½ to 4, three months' 3½, four months' 4½, and six months' 5; and in the City, London and Westminster, three months' 3½, four months' 4½, and six months' 5.

We regret to state that several additional firms engaged in the leather trade have announced their inability to meet their engagements. The liabilities are in some instances heavy. Although there has been more firmness in the market for Home Securities, and although prices have continued steady, the dealings, both for Money and Time, have been somewhat restricted: Consols have realised 93½; Reduced Three Per Cents, 93½; New Three Per Cents, 94½; Exchequer Bills, 2s. to 3s. prem. Bank 5s. 10s. has been 2½.

Most Indian securities have been steady in price: The Five per Cent Stock has sold at 10½; ditto, Old, 11½; the Five per Cent Paper, 96½ to 97½; the Five and a Half per Cent ditto, 102½; the Debentures have been 95 to 97; and the Bonds, 2s. to 3s. prem.

The Bullion Market is steady. Bar silver is quoted at 5s. 1½d.; Mexican dollars, 5s. 1½d.; and five-franc pieces, 4s. 1½d. per ounce.

The dealings in Foreign Securities have again been only to a moderate extent; nevertheless, prices have continued firm, and the value of Turkish stock has been on an advance. Other descriptions are without material change from last week. Brazilian Five per Cents, 81; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, Deferred, 23½; Chilean Four and a Half per Cents, 82½; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½; Portuguese Three per Cents, 44½; Russian Four and a Half per Cents, 84; Russian Three per Cents, 84; Sardinian Five per Cents, 83½; Turkey Central, 75½; Ditto New, 60½.

Most Joint-stock Bank Shares have supported previous currencies, but the business doing in them has been rather limited. Bank of Egypt have marked 22½; Bank of London, 62½ ex div.; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 20½; City, 69; London and Westminster, 69½; London and Westminster, 69½; Ottoman, 17½; and Union of Australia, 41½.

The market for Colonial Government securities has been very inactive, at about previous rates. Canada Six per Cents have been done at 112½; Ditto 1863, 113; Ditto Five per Cents, 101½; and Victoria Six per Cents, 99½.

In Miscellaneous Securities very few transactions have taken place. Anglo Mexican Mint shares have realised 16; Electric Telegraph, 105; Great Ship, 4; Madras Irrigation and Canal, 4; Netherlands Land Eight per Cent Preference, 4; Rhymney Iron, 20.

Considerable activity has prevailed in the Railway Share Market, and on several of the leading lines an important advance has taken place. Bristol and Exeter have sold 105; Caledonian, 94½; Eastern Counties, 57; Great Northern, 119; Great Western, 13; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 109½; London and Brighton, 112½ ex div.; London and North Western, 104½; London and South-Western, 97; Midland, 144½; South-Eastern, 80½.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The arrivals of English wheat up to our market this week have been on a very moderate scale. Owing to an enormous influx of foreign produce, the demand for all kinds of wheat of home produce has ruled very inelastic, and about previous rates. Foreign wheat, though in large supply has been inquired for. In prices, however, no change has taken place. Floating cargoes have commanded late currencies. The barley trade has ruled inactive, on former terms. Malt has changed hands slowly, at late rates. Neither large quantities of oats have found buyers, at the late decline in value. Beans and peas have ruled about stationary, and no change has taken place in the value of flour.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 46s. to 60s.; ditto, white, 51s. to 66s.; grinding barley, 27s. to 32s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 31s.; malt, 30s. to 38s.; rye, 30s. to 31s.; malt, 40s. to 42s.; feed oats, 24s.; potatoes, ditto, 27s. to 30s.; tick beans, 38s. to 40s.; grey peas, 36s. to 38s.; white ditto, 38s. to 42s. per quarter. Town flour, 60s. to 54s.; country marks, 59s. to 62s.; town households, 47s. per 280lb.

CATTLE.—Prime beefs have sold steady, at very full prices; but inferior breeds have declined 2d. per 8lb. Sheep, lambs, and calves have moved off freely at extreme rates; but pigs have commanded very little attention. Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. lamb, 5s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; veal, 4s. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 4s. to 5s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Prime meat has sold steadily, other kinds slowly, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; lamb, 5s. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 4s. to 5s.; pork, 4s. to 5s. 2d. per 8lb., by the carcase.

TEA.—Nearly all kinds have met a slow inquiry. Compared with last week, however, no change has taken place in prices. SCARF.—Good and fine new qualities have changed hands to a fair extent, on former terms; but inferior parcels have met a dull inquiry, at late rates. West India has realised 3s. to 4s.; Mauritius, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; and B-nagat, 3s. to 4s. 6d. new. Keenest goods are in fair request, at 5s. 6d. to 5s. 10s. per cwt. for dry quality. Candles and prices are steady.

MOLASSES.—Very little business is doing in any kind, on former terms.

COFFEE.—Both Foreign and Colonial parcels are in fair request, at about last week's currency. Fair to very good native Ceylon has realised 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per cwt.

COCOA.—Very little business is doing in any kind, and prices have a drooping tendency.

RICE.—Importers are very firm but the business doing is only moderate, at late rates.

PROVISIONS.—Good and fine qualities of butter move off freely, at extreme rates; but other kinds are a slow inquiry. Bacon is firm in price. In other provisions very little is doing.

CINNAMON.—The quarterly sales have been held this week. Fine qualities have realised a slight advance, but other kinds have met a dull inquiry. Firsts have sold at from 1s. 7d. to 2s.; seconds, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.; and thirds, 10s. to 1s. 2d. per lb.

SALTETTES.—The demand rules steady, at full quotations. The stock is £700 tons, against £200 tons last year.

METALS.—Scotch pig iron has changed hands at 32s. 6d. to 32s. 9d., at £20 5s. to £20 10s. per ton. Tin sells slowly, at 151s. to 152s. per cwt. and 137s. for Banca. Copper is quoted at £105 10s. to £107 per ton for Besta-Borra.

SPIRITS.—Rum is a dull inquiry, at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon for proof East India, and 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d. for Lewards. Brandy is heavy, at from 8s. to 11s. per gallon. Hambro' spirit, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. English duty, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. English gin for export, 7s. 9d. to 8s. in hogsheads.

COTTON.—Our market is flat, at about previous quotations.

HEMP AND FLAX.—Baltic hemp moves off steadily at £23 10s. per ton for Petersburg clean. In flax, however, very little is doing at late rates.

WOOL.—The public sales of colonial wool are progressing steadily, at fully the opening quotations. The market is excited, and prices are on the advance, owing to the unfavourable accounts from the plantations. The duty has declined to £1 40s.

POTATOES.—The supplies are good, and the demand is steady, at from 3s. to 6s. per ton.

OLIVE.—Linnecy oil, noted at 78s. 9d. per cwt. on the spot; pale seal is quiet, at £35; nut, 45s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.; fine palm, 45s.; spirits of turpentine, 32s. to 32s.; and rosin, 8s. 9d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—P.V.G. on the spot, is in fair request, at 52s. 9d. to 53s. 9d. per cwt. The stock is 35,610 casks, against 22,432 ditto in 1859, and 11,465 in 1858. Rough tallow, 2s. 9d. per 8lb.

COALS.—Best house coals, 19s. to 19s. 6d.; second, 16s. 6d. to 18s.; Hartley's, 15s. to 15s. 6d.; and manufacturers', 13s. to 13s. 6d. per ton.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JULY 27.

BANKRUPTS.—S. O. BERNARD, Lower Thames street, wine merchant.—S. BENNETT, Nottingham, tailor.—H. A. LAMBETH street, Whitechapel, tailor.—G. STATIONER, Keele, Staffordshire, shoe manufacturer.—F. B. SCHNEIDER, Liverpool, leather factor.—T. and S. PALMER, Plymouth, painters.—J. LAWSON, Leamington, street, City, shipbroker.—E. HEATCOTE, Rock Ferry, Cheshire, grocer.—J. HOOPER, Bernersley, leather merchant.—C. H. JOSEPH, Strand, hotelkeeper.—ELIZABETH WRIGHT, Manchester, lodging-house-keeper.—ANN ANNE LEVYER, Liverpool, hosiery and dealer.—W. OSBORNE, Birkenhead, printer.—T. E. FOUNTNEY, Bromsby, Worcestershire, licensed victualler.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—G. R. STEWART, Glasgow, commission agent.—R. SPENCE and Sons Linlithgow, tanners.—J. MURRAY, senr., Kilmarnock, baker.—J. LOVE, Fraserburgh, shipowner.

TUESDAY, JULY 31.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—T. TOYNE, Southwick-street, Hy-Park, hotelkeeper.

BANKRUPTS.—J. H. SMITH, Wyle's-terrace, Bernersley, tanner.—W. ROUND, senior, Poole and Corfe Mullen, Dorsetshire, farmer.—C. W. HOOPER and H. PARKINSON, Seething-lane, City, leather factors.—P. H. PAYNE, Euston road, leather merchant.—E. E. DAUNT and J. WILSON, Old Broad-street, City, billbrokers.—J. BUSH, ALDER, W. ALDER, W. ALDER, City, and Harpenden, Hertfordshire, straw hat manufacturers.—W. O. PARSON, Gravesend, silk agent.—A. HOLME, Commercial Wharf, Upper Thames-street, shipowner.—H. J. and T. RICHARDS, Westbromwich, Staffordshire, ironmasters.—R. HEATCOTE, Loughborough, Leicestershire.—S. N. H. VANCE, Leek, Staffordshire, grocer.—J. M. MANTON and S. HAINES, Aberystwyth, Montgomeryshire, drapers.—E. WETTERBERG, Cheltenham, plumber.—W. and J. ISLINGTON, Yeovil, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturers.—I. J. BARRETT, Liverpool, hotelkeeper.—T. R. MITCHELL, Liverpool, apothecary.—J. M. COLEMAN, Cheshire, joiner.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. MILLER, Springbank, Edinburgh, merchant.—W. ANCA, Edinburgh.—D. LEITCH, deceased, Lochgiphead, merchant.—J. A. SMITH, Edinburgh, baker.

MARRIED.—On the 26th of July, at Aghada, Cork county, by the Rev. W. Townsend, the Rev. T. P. Little, Vicar of Pantley and P.C. Oxenham, Gloucestershire, to Annie Esther Maria, the second daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Sir Joseph Thackwell, G.C.B., late Inspecting General of Cavalry, &c.

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AUSTRALIA.—Mr. and Mrs. JOHN INCH, 319 and 320, Strand (opposite Somerset House), W.C., continue giving highest prices in Cash for Ladies', Gentlemen's, and Children's Clothes, Regiments, Underclothing, Boots, Books, and Miscellaneous Goods. Letters attended to. Parcels from the country, the utmost value returned same day. Estab. 48 yrs. Country dealers supplied.

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Extensive experience, and the recorded testimony of numberless eminent medical practitioners, prove that a half pint of Dr. De Jongh's Oil is equal in remedial effects to a quart of any other kind. Hence, as it is incomparably the best, so it is likewise far the cheapest.

Falsateness, speedy efficacy, safety, and economy unitedly recommend this unparalleled preparation to invalids.

OPINION OF

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